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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

A CHANCE FOR LONDON.

LONDON is the largest, but it is at the same time the ugliest, city in the world. It possesses many fine public buildings, civil and ecclesiastical; but few, if any, of them are so placed as to impress the imagination, please the taste, or satisfy the judgment of the spectator. Until within the last few months there was not a spot of ground from whence a good view of St. Paul's in all the fair magnificence of its mighty proportions could be obtained; and the little glimpse, which at a vast outlay has been temporarily afforded, serves but as a whet to the public appetite, and shows what might still be done if the lumbering warehouses lately erected, together with Doctors' Commons, and all the mean and squalid thoroughfares down to the river, were levelled with the ground. Goldsmiths' Hall is in an alley. Trafalgar-square, that place of monstrosities and hideosities, though declared to be the finest site in Europe, is a spot which it is scarcely possible for an educated Englishman to pass without a feeling of shame or disgust at the ignorance, the jobbery, and the bad taste which have enthroned themselves upon it. In the City, properly so called, there is not a single street wide enough for the existing, to say nothing of the increasing, traffic;—while the river Thames—which might be a source of health as well as beauty, and lined on either side with piazzas or terraces of noble mansions—

has been transformed by neglect and mismanagement into a purulent and pestiferous ditch, flanked with low sheds, tumble-down wharves, and fifth-rate houses. The river front of Somerset House, the Temple Gardens, the Adelphi-terrace, and the New Palace at Westminster, exist to show what might be done in several styles in the adornment of the banks of the Thames, without interference with the needs or conveniences of commerce; but, for want of authority, or of will, or of judgment, or of sympathy with the great, the comprehensive, and the beautiful;—for want of everything, in fact, except the means;—the Thames, which ought to be the glory, has become the shame, of London, and is allowed to roll its filthy tide;—the greatest gutter in the world.

London had one great chance in the year 1666 of being made a beautiful city. The fire which destroyed its sordid thoroughfares afforded an opportunity that ought not to have been lost; and which the clear head of one man of genius pointed out to the authorities of his day. Sir Christopher Wren brought forward an admirable plan for the rebuilding of the city, and laid out—unfortunately on paper alone—a series of wide and noble streets running at right angles with each other, capable of accommodating even the stupendous traffic of the present day; affording appropriate and imposing sites for the fine public buildings which are now hidden in byways and in

corners, unknown to the great bulk of the population. The finest of these streets would have converged towards St. Paul's; and that superb temple would have stood isolated in its dignity, with a large open space all round it, as beautiful in its position as in itself. But the chance was lost. The men of authority in that day had no souls for such great projects; and the streets of London were rebuilt as inconveniently, and almost as meanly, as before.

Another chance has just offered itself for the improvement of the city of Westminster, which, though not theoretically a part of London City, is practically a large and very essential portion of London, the metropolis of the world. Everything in the public life of England grows by slow and almost imperceptible degrees. Nothing is made in a hurry, or upon a large scale—unless perhaps it be a War or a Peace. Our constitution and our laws are the lingering growth of ages. For at least half a century it has been painfully obvious to the functionaries, great and little, of our Government departments, and to every one who has had any affairs to transact with them, that the offices of the British nation were incommensurate with its business; that our Secretaries of State for Home or Foreign Affairs, our Lords of the Treasury, our administrators of the noblest and largest Navy in the world, our chiefs of War Departments and Trade Departments, and of all the multifarious ramifications of a Commerce which pervades the



THE LATE STORM AT DOVER.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



world, and of a Dominion on which the sun never sets, had neither sufficient accommodation among themselves, nor were congregated together in some central spot where they might be accessible one to the other, and to the countless number of persons who had occasion from day to day to transact business with them. The approaching completion of the New Houses of Parliament, and the consequent erection of a new bridge at Westminster, with its approaches, to replace the rotten structure that threatens every day to fall into the Thames, has at length compelled the Government to bethink itself of the desirability, the propriety, and, we may add, the positive necessity, of lodging itself in a manner less costly, and at the same time more splendid and convenient, than at present. Had it not been for the fast-approaching downfall of old Westminster Bridge, it is likely enough that the Government would have gone on in the usual manner; propping up the Foreign Office; putting up with half of an Admiralty at Whitehall and another half in Somerset House; and with renting dingy private houses in Parliament-street, Great George-street, or Spring Gardens, for the transaction of its business. But necessity has no law; and since a clearance in the immediate vicinity of official Westminster has become inevitable, if only for the approaches to the bridge which must be made *coute qui coute*, the Government has wisely, though tardily, resolved to effect an improvement, or series of improvements, which will go far towards making London one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. It has determined to consolidate the Government offices on a site lying between Whitehall and the new Houses of Parliament, and has issued an invitation to the architects of the whole world to send in plans before the 21st of March next. The proposed site—if the Government does not think fit to enlarge the scheme, as we hope it will—will include that large block now covered with inferior buildings, bounded on the north by Downing-street and the Treasury, on the south by Great George-street, on the west by St. James's Park, and on the east by Parliament-street. This will afford a splendid area, and will not only throw open the approaches to the new Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey, but will afford scope for architectural genius, both with reference to the new public offices themselves, and to the magnificent objects in the vicinity. But having resolved upon doing so much, we may ask in the words of the old proverb, why spoil the ship for a halfpenny worth of tar? Why not extend St. James's-park right down to the river, and make a clean sweep of every building from Northumberland House to the proposed new Bridge, with the sole exception of Whitehall? With an improvement like this, and the contemporaneous purification and embankment of the Thames, London would be worthy to be called a metropolis, not for size and wealth alone, but for amenity and beauty.

The proposals of the Government appear in another portion of our paper. We earnestly hope that the result will be a design which will recommend itself to all men for its propriety, no less than for its splendour; and that the Government will be induced to extend the time which it has granted for the delivery of the plans. After so many delays, it would be a pity indeed if so great a project should be marred by precipitancy at the last moment.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

Office of Works, Whitehall, 30th Sept., 1856.

THE Commissioners of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings give notice that they are prepared to receive three designs from architects of all countries: the first to comprise a scheme for the concentration of the principal Government offices on a site lying between Whitehall and the New Palace at Westminster; the other two, designs for buildings which her Majesty's Government have determined to erect forthwith as parts of such scheme—one for the department of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the other for the Secretary of State for War.

GENERAL OR BLOCK PLAN.

This design is to show, by a block plan, the best mode of concentrating the principal Government offices on a site comprised within a space marked on the plan*, including a space to be obtained by the proposed embankment of the river Thames.

The design is also to represent any improvements which the author may suggest in the principal approaches to the New Palace at Westminster, as well as in the communications with the Surrey side of the river Thames, especially with reference to the situation of the new Westminster-bridge, the ultimate position of which must be considered in connection with this design. An accompanying Plan, compiled from the Ordnance Survey, shows the river Thames, the leading thoroughfares, and the principal public buildings in the vicinity of the site.

The design for the block plan must be drawn to the same scale as the Plan No. 1, namely, 44 feet to an inch; and the proposed improvements of the leading thoroughfares, &c., to the scale of Plan No. 2, namely, 5 feet to one statute mile. The Government buildings, or any of them now standing on the site, may form a part of the general plan to be submitted by any architect, if he should consider them available for that purpose. The Government have determined that the buildings for the departments of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and the Secretary of State for War shall be erected upon a part of the site tinted yellow on the plans, and that the Foreign Office shall be next the Park; architects must therefore design the general plan in accordance with that arrangement.

Architects desiring to send in models with this design will be permitted to do so, provided the models are made to the same scales as the design; but drawings in frames (other than straining frames) and glasses will not be received. Any alteration in the existing levels of the streets must be shown upon the drawings and models.

The following is a list of the principal Government offices, with the approximate area required for each:—

	Approximate Superficial Area in Feet.
The Treasury, including official residences for the First Lord and for the Chancellor of the Exchequer	50,000
The Foreign Office, including an official residence	46,000
The War Department	50,000
The Colonial Office	15,000
The Home Office	15,000
The Paymaster General's General Office	15,000
The Exchequer Office	3,000
The Board of Trade	25,000
The Privy Council Office	15,000
The Admiralty, Somerset House	45,000
The Board of Control	12,000
The Poor Law Board	10,000
The State Paper Office	5,000
The Office of Works	8,000
The Office of Woods	8,000
Civil Service Commission, &c.	5,000
The Charity Commission, &c.	6,000
The Ecclesiastical Commission	6,000
Copyhold, Inclosure, and Tithe Commission	8,000
The Emigration Office	5,000

Architects must, in addition to the offices above enumerated, provide

* We have not thought it necessary to engrave the places referred to; as architects and others interested will be able to obtain them on application at the Parliamentary Paper Office.

vide for further buildings (to be afterwards appropriated as the Government may determine) to such an extent as may be consistent with proper open spaces and thoroughfares.

To this follow specifications of three designs. The specifications for the new Foreign Office state that the architects are to prepare designs for public offices, and an official residence. The Foreign Office, exclusive of the official residence, will altogether consist of nearly 200 rooms, some of them of splendid dimensions. For instance, there are to be two libraries, each 120 feet long by thirty feet. The building is to be fire proof, the rooms lofty, and the corridors wide. The official residence is to contain one state dining-room to accommodate fifty persons, with apartments adjoining for occasional supper and tea rooms, library, morning-room, &c.; five reception-rooms *en suite* on the first floor, to accommodate 1500 visitors; one or more principal staircases to and from the reception-rooms; about twelve or fourteen bed-rooms, with a suitable number of dressing-rooms, and all the other requirements of a nobleman's town-house.

The proposed buildings for the War Department will be still larger, although there is to be no official residence attached to it. The number of rooms altogether will approach very nearly to 270. The dimensions of all of them are to be good, and especial attention is to be directed to their being constructed of proper heights, and with reference to good and sufficient ventilation. Both the offices to be warmed by an apparatus below, in the basement of the buildings. No restriction in the specifications are made as to cost. The prizes for the best designs are:—For the two best designs for the Foreign Office and War Department, two premiums of £800; for the second best, two premiums of £500; for the third, two premiums of £300; and for the fifth, sixth, and seventh best, there are two premiums of £100 each. If the architect to whom a premium may be awarded in respect of the designs, or any of them, shall be employed to superintend the execution of the work, he will not be entitled to receive such premium, but he will be paid a commission (at the rate of 5 per cent) on the outlay. Such commission to include all expenses for measuring, superintendence, &c., except the salaries of the clerks of the works.

The accommodation required in the Foreign Office is to include one room for twenty-five compositors; one room for three hand presses; one room for the reader; two rooms for the master printer; one room for stores, type, paper, &c. The above rooms to be entered from the area, and to have no communication with the upper part of the building, except by a private staircase from the reader's room to the ground floor.

The War Department is also to have a printing-office, but with room for only ten compositors.

THE EQUINOCTIAL GALES AT DOVER.

THE equinoctial breezes at the close of the past month set in with unusual severity. On the night of the 27th ult. a perfect gale of wind blew from S.S.E. During the night the gale became stronger, and the sea got up to a frightful height; but next morning the aspect of the weather was most appalling. The wind howled, and the sea raged with the greatest fury. The scene all along the piers and around the port was awful. Gigantic waves broke in succession right over the Admiralty-pier and works for two or three hours, but did little damage there. On the western side it tore up the pavement in front of the Lord Warden Hotel, dashed columns of water right over the building, and carried a cloud of sticks and stones into the dock on the other side. It filled up all the kitchens of the hotel; but little damage was sustained by the building. The whole of the space, however, facing the sea, was strewn with broken planks, piles, and other fragments of wood, which came from the groined buildings and fences of the South-Eastern Railway. The railway sustained the most damage. At about 100 yards from the Archoliff Fort tunnel, and about 200 yards from the station, such was the violence of the curling, foaming sea, in the corner near Shakespeare's Cliff, that it broke through the outer stout fence, carrying it away, then through the heavy and massive wooden framework, tied by iron rods across from one line of rails to the other, and from buildings on the one side to premises on the other, scooped out the shingle, broke down the stays, swept off a large portion of the buildings nearest to the beach, carried away some of the brick-work, and undermined the sheds nearest the cliff; and for fifty yards entirely broke down both lines of rails, sleepers, and framework.

The wreck from the railway, together with the planks from the groins, were for hours dashed against and over the Admiralty Pier, and were thrown up more than twenty feet high at the corner of the Lord Warden Hotel in pieces, some of which were more than 100 lb. weight, and were then split into fragments against the pier and pavement.

The accompanying illustration of the scene is from a sketch by Mr. Edwin Hayes.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE redoubt at Freshwater Gate Cliff, in the Isle of Wight, for protecting the fortifications on the eastern side of the Solent, is now completed, and is manned by between sixty and seventy artillerymen.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GENERAL COMMANDING-IN-CHIEF, with a view to relieve regiments from the great expense now consequent upon the necessity of employing professional musicians—civilians—as masters of bands, has it in contemplation to recommend the establishment of a large musical class, as part of the education of boys sent to the Royal Military Asylum, and for the instruction of persons sent from regiments to qualify for bugle-majors, trumpet-majors, and band-masters, and whose training would require especial time and attention. If every regiment would pay an original subscription of £1, and £1 per annum to the fund, ample provision, it is thought, would be made for all expenses.

THE experiments which took place at Shoeburyness last week with the great wrought-iron gun were eminently successful. The practice consisted of about 27 rounds with solid shot and heavy charges of powder; the range, with 18 degrees of elevation, and a charge of 50 lb. of powder, exceeding at first gaze 5000 yards. We have not yet had information as to the range obtained in each round, but we believe all were satisfactory, being far superior to anything ever obtained by the ordinary guns in her Majesty's service. The line of fire was also most admirable, the shot following each other with surprising accuracy. Since it was last tried a new and very beautiful carriage has been made for the gun, combining the recent excellent appliances introduced by the Woolwich authorities, and which rendered the working of this immense weapon of destruction as easy as that of an ordinary 68-pounder. Some experiments were also made with various descriptions of rifled guns, including the celebrated weapon by Whitworth, of Manchester. On this occasion it seemed to answer admirably.

CAPTAIN W. MOSSE, 26th Cameronians, attached to the dépôt companies of that corps at the provisional battalion, Chatham, having undergone a course of rifle instruction at the school of musketry, Hythe, in order to qualify himself as an instructor in musketry, is under orders to proceed to join the service companies of his regiment stationed at Bermuda for the purpose of instructing that corps in the use of the Enfield rifle. Second-class instructor Griffiths is also under orders to embark with Captain Mosse.

THE battalions of Royal Artillery, with the men composing the mounted corps and riding-house establishment, exceeding 3000 men, were on Tuesday morning drawn up in lines on the parade ground of the barracks at Woolwich, and individually received from the hands of Major-General Sir W. F. Williams the diploma which should have accompanied the distinction conferred upon them by the Emperor of the French. The General subsequently inspected five companies of artillery under orders for distribution to various home stations.

THE AUSTRIAN CONCORDAT.—A circular from the Consistories of the reformed Confession of Augsburg, relative to burials, mentions the intention manifested by the Austrian Government to grant entire freedom of worship to its Protestant subjects. This idea is founded on a passage contained in a rescript of the Minister of Public Worship, in which it is said that the new prescriptions are in no way intended to impede the free exercise of the Protestant worship; that the people, in accord with their ecclesiastical authorities, ought to support the efforts of the Government to bring about a state of things which would permit the Evangelical Church to freely develop its worship and its religious observances.

RUSSIA AND NAPLES.—A letter from Berlin of the 2nd, in the *German Journal* of Frankfurt, says:—"There is a talk in diplomatic circles of a second and more recent Russian note on the Neapolitan question. It will be addressed to the French Government, and is said to have been written under the impression of the accounts from Paris which announced the departure of the ultimatum and the demonstration of the squadrons. It is said that this note sums itself up in a positive protest against a proceeding which, if once admitted, may in its consequences overthrow all the political and international law of Europe."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE return of the Emperor and Empress, the delay in which has led to the propagation of a host of the most preposterous canards, brings back a little more life and movement to Paris. The preparations for hunting and other fêtes, go on at Compiègne, and it is expected that more than one Royal visitor will attend these festivities, which will probably begin between the 10th and 15th. It is said that the Prince Imperial, so far from suffering from the effects of the climate at Biarritz, as it was at first feared he might do, is in the best possible health, and the most thriving condition.

The desire for an arrangement of affairs on a pacific footing with Naples is every day more manifest, and we cannot but think a decided want of dignity is shown in the earnest way such a desire is publicly displayed. To England, of course, there is no secret as to the cause of this eagerness; it lies in the desire to escape before the eyes of Europe, the ridicule and discredit a rupture with Russia would cause, just when the peace against which England so vigorously protested, had been hastily patched up by France; it would be better though, to try to keep the manifestation of this uneasiness and this desire a little quieter. We are assured M. Brunnow is grieved and penitent for having made public Gortschakoff's insulting flourish of trumpets, and that M. Kisseleff is the bearer of an autograph letter from the Czar to the Emperor of the French, which declares he is very sorry and will never, never do it again, or words to that effect.

An arrangement with Austria in the matter of the occupation of the Principalities does not seem to be regarded with the same would-be assurance, and the difficulties on this head seem to render it likely that every means will be adopted to hasten the commencement of the Conference, which are expected to open about the 15th of this month.

On the 1st of January come into operation the new arrangements relative to the Bourse, among others that respecting the right of entry. It is said that the number of Agents de Change is likely to be considerably augmented.

One of the first subjects to which the Emperor's attention turns on his arrival in the capital is the construction of the new model chalets on the piece of ground selected for the purpose near the abattoir Rochechouart. Twelve are now erected, each containing four lodgings, composed every one of four rooms, to be let at 150f. a year a lodging. They are to be devoted exclusively to the use of labouring men and their families, and are to have water and gas supplied by the town. 150 more of these chalets are to be erected in different parts in and about Paris, and already 15,000 applications have been made to the Administration for lodgings in them. Notwithstanding all these attempts to better the condition of the working classes in this respect, there is no doubt that they are but drops of water to the ocean that is required to do real service; and the 8th of October brings more than ever an amount of suffering and difficulty to the poor labourer, man or woman, who finds but too often the utter impossibility of satisfying the demand of the landlord, and is frequently driven from the lodging he or she has long found becoming more and more out of the reach of the scanty means the most arduous labour supplies, just at the moment when all other habitations are also put further than ever beyond attainment, and when the winter, with its increased expenses, is at the door. Some idea of the increase of rents may be given when we state that a gentleman who, in 1815, took an apartment in the Chaussée d'Antin, at a rent of 2000 francs, now pays for the same 8000, and is only saved from a further increase in consideration of his having occupied the place so long, and having frequently done up the apartment at his own expense. In small lodgings the increase is, perhaps, yet greater in proportion, while, at the same time, the exigencies of the proprietors, and the difficulties and objections made by them are infinitely greater than ever.

It is said that there is an intention of concentrating all the Imperial Guard in a camp at Châlons in the spring, which will be commanded by the Emperor in person.

A frightful accident has lately caused the death of one of the most esteemed and highly-considered magistrates of the capital, M. Dupin. In an excursion to Rouen by steamer, the chimney fell, injured several persons, and fractured both M. Dupin's thighs in such a way that he expired shortly after his arrival at Rouen, in the most intense tortures. The Cour des Comptes has had in this event a loss which is most seriously felt, in every point of view.

The Courses de Chantilly have this autumn been less brilliant than usual, owing to the few persons in town. To the great astonishment of all the world, the favourite, Monarque, was beaten by a horse considered decidedly inferior, Ronzi. Hereby hangs a tale;—one big with interest to the French turf. M. Aumont, about the most important racing man, and possessed of the largest and best-conducted stud on this side of the Channel, is about to bring the whole to auction. The new railroad has destroyed half his park, and runs right behind his stables, causing thus so much injury to his property, both dead and living, as to make him resolve to give up the whole thing. It appears that the agitation caused to Monarque (who belongs to M. Aumont) by the constant vicinity of a large number of horses, employed in the works, and the noise caused by their neighing, kicking, and fighting, night and day, have prevented his sleeping, and brought on a feverish state which has enervated him considerably.

The extraordinary change in the weather, which, though somewhat dull and threatening, is infinitely warmer than in the commencement of July, is hailed as keeping off the approach of winter, and will, if it does not turn to rain, prove most favourable to the vintage.

Rossini is expected again to pass the winter in Paris; and Verdi is said to have entered into an engagement with the theatre of Marseilles for an opera, for which he is to be paid 15,000 francs.

There is nothing new of much merit or interest at the theatres, which are concentrating their forces for the winter. The Opéra is preparing a translation of the "Trovatore," the "Rose de Florence," the "Cheval de Bronze," and a ballet from "Marco Spada," for the Rosati.

NAPLES AND THE WESTERN ALLIANCE.

A short respite has been given to the King of Naples. General von Martini has been sent from Vienna, with an autographic letter from Francis Joseph to Ferdinand, in which a last attempt is made to bring the demented Bourbon to a sense of his dangerous situation. If this friendly intervention fail, we are told that the fleets will sail for the Bay of Naples, "for the protection of the subjects of the two countries."

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* gives the following letter from a gentleman long resident in Naples:—

You have heard how M. Hübnér, whose visit had been so long expected, was received at last, and that the King did not deign to admit him to a private conference, and that his Majesty suddenly announced his departure with the Court for Gaeta, whence they returned for the St. Januarius' fête. So much for outward appearances. It is, however, shrewdly suspected that this was merely a plan previously agreed upon by the two parties chiefly concerned, as in fact the signal for the line of conduct to be followed hereafter, namely, the retreat of "an oppressed and persecuted

King" before those demonstrations which could alone bring "un to reason. No good to the cause of Italy could come of Austrian negotiations, and so long as that course was followed few here would place faith in the sincerity of our diplomatic sympathies. Open resistance on the part of the King, if matters are pushed to extremes, is wholly out of the question for the present. The army is not supposed to be trustworthy, and even if it were, it would not be regarded as a substitute for batteries or fortifications. Passive resistance seems the only line to be now pursued with any chance of ultimate success—the King to retreat behind Gaeta, leaving the Allies to dictate at their pleasure, or simply to carry out the plan already suggested—namely, for the fleet to remain quiet in the Bay, for the sole purpose of protecting the English and French residents, while his Majesty is taking counsel from his usual advisers. But the great question is, what is to be the ultimatum? That Austria has been playing off her usual treacherous policy few doubt. If a foreign dynasty is to be imposed upon the country, with or without a division of territory, it would be the signal for the renewal of the Holy Alliance sooner or later. With England and France against the world, I should not tremble for the result, provided the cause were a just and honourable one. Whatever be the momentary triumph, you may depend upon it the foreign dynasty is looked upon as a national disgrace by all honest men in the country. At the best it would be considered as a last resource, even by those who for the present may be advocating that desperate measure, and is the only chance of getting their neighbours to uphold them. One plan was suggested, which might have suited all parties, viz., the abdication of the present Monarch in favour of his son, who has, by his mother the blood of Savoy in his veins, and who, with the sad example he has had, might see the necessity of adopting liberal institutions.

Events are hurrying on; no one knows what the Allies are about, and no one believes that they can abstain from active intervention. The Muratists are known to be openly conspiring. It is believed that the Emperor is secretly countenancing their attempts; the fact that is so intolerable is the present order of things, that he could bring Murat in, or indeed any one he thought proper. The question is how long would the foreigner be suffered to remain. It was long ago said, no doubt falsely, that Lord Palmerston had been heard to give his sanction to the Murat solution as the quickest and best way of getting rid of the Bourbons. The meaning attached to a Murat restoration is the return of a certain order of ideas, which, it is true, were introduced by the French. The French code remains; it is, to be sure, a dead letter; but still there it is, and then there is the Constitution granted in 1848.

To hope that the present King will retrace his steps would be folly. He might be compelled once more to forswear himself in the face of Europe; but how long would that last! The Austrian Envoy, Martini, returned the other day, and was admitted to an immediate conference. It is rumoured that the town is to be put under martial law the moment the Allied fleets appear in sight, and that the lazzaroni are to be let loose, as they were in 1848, when the French and English fleets were also in sight. How, then, can people be expected to place faith on foreign succour after the fatal examples so frequently shown. The friends of order, as they call themselves, will probably abstain from all kind of open demonstration; and while they retire to the country, to avoid the rabble or the ignoble persecutions of the police, some flag or other, no matter what, will be hoisted by a set of desperate exiles, encouraged or not from without, to be hereafter butchered in the streets or thrown into dungeons; or Piedmont will be suffered to hurry on once more to her destruction in the same unequal struggle which so recently placed her at the feet of Austria.

The *Austrian Gazette* (Ministerial paper) states that the King of Naples has sent autographic letters to the Emperor Napoleon and Queen Victoria.

The King announces that he is willing to send a representative to the Paris Conference, and to communicate his intentions respecting organic reforms and an amnesty.

OCCUPATION OF GALATZ BY THE AUSTRIANS.

On Tuesday last official information reached Paris that the Austrians have suddenly occupied Galatz with 4000 men; that they have taken the administration of public affairs into their own hands there, and at other points of the Danube; and that Sir Henry Bulwer is about to return home, as these steps render the offices of the Commissioners perfectly useless. The following letter from the Special Correspondent of the *Morning Post*, dated "Mouth of the Danube, Sept. 29," will throw some light upon the affair:—

We have been thunderstruck here by the intelligence that 4000 Austrian soldiers have suddenly pounced upon Galatz, and occupied it—done the same at Ibrail—and seized all the ports of the Danube. The *Constantinople Journal* speaks only of Ibrail being occupied; but, no doubt, both have been so. They have not only quartered their troops in these towns, but they have taken possession of police and post offices, so that all persons and communications must pass through their hands. This, of course, shuts the door in the face of the commissioners charged to consult the Principalities, and you may, in consequence, expect Sir Henry Bulwer home. You will be better able to judge than I am the cause of this defiance to the Western Powers. Is it a set-off for any demonstration of ours against Naples, and a significant declaration that, if we carry out our liberal policy in Italy, Austria will carry out a contrary one upon the Danube and in the Euxine? This would be a very grave challenge, for Austria is not the Power to cast that challenge, if it did not know that it was supported by some other Power, and there is none to support it in such policy except Russia.

We cut, for the present, rather a ridiculous figure. After having made war to drive Russia from the Principalities, we withdraw all our soldiers on the understanding that Austria would do the same, instead of which Austria reoccupies the Principalities, and seizes the ports at the mouth of the river. Let me add, that this is rendered more serious by the recent conduct of Austria to a French naval officer. Captain Magnan brought out here a certain class of flat-bottomed boats, to be used in the Sea of Azoff, and in shallow waters, for war purposes. The war being over, the captain obtained permission of his Government to try his boats on the Danube, and he considered them applicable to the navigation of the Pruth, the Sereth, and the Maritza. The Turks, however, do not like the Maritza to be navigated but by their own boats—that is to say, they will never allow it to be navigated at all. A French company in Armenia, with Captain Magnan, applied for the navigation of the Pruth and Sereth, and offered, at its own expense, to remove the obstructions in the rivers. The Moldavian Government and Hospodar granted the request, and made the cession; but Austria has compelled the Porte to annul that cession, on the plea that, by the clause of some treaty, Austria has the monopoly of navigating these inland waters. Both English and French Ambassadors tried in vain to get this rescinded.

Captain Magnan, forbidden to attempt the Pruth, sailed up the Danube. First of all an Austrian vessel ran into one of his boats, and destroyed it. A commission of naval officers have declared that this was done on purpose. He again sailed up the Danube, and met with every obstacle that the Austrians could put in his way. He pleaded that he was not going to interfere with the Austrians, but that the Turks had a right to at least half the river; that it was most important for them to be able to send troops and supplies by the Danube and the Save to their fortresses in Bosnia; and that he was making the experiment to enable the Turks to use the great high-road up the Danube. To this the Austrians replied that they would never permit the Turks to navigate the Danube. So much for the conduct of the chief ally of Turkey, who is one of the contracting Powers for maintaining the liberty of the Danube, and who is determined to stop it and its tributaries, not only to France and England, but to Turkey.

It is, no doubt, under the pretext of Russia still menacing the Danube by keeping—or, rather, by claiming—the Isle of Serpents that Austria has seized Galatz. No doubt she will plead that, when France and England think it necessary to send back a naval force to the Black Sea, Austria can do no less than occupy the Principalities. But this is done so manifestly with the design of quashing the question of the organisation of Moldo-Wallachia, that it is impossible not to see that Austria considers herself to inherit those pretensions which Russia entertained, and to repel which we engaged in an expensive and sanguinary war.

The gravest consideration attending these circumstances is, however, the report that Turkey was no stranger to the intention of Austria to occupy Galatz. It is said that neither Lord Redcliffe nor M. Thouvenel knew of it; that the intelligence took them by surprise; and that, when they expressed their surprise, the Turkish Minister declared he thought they were fully apprised of it.

The Russian Government has ordered twenty steamers for the postal and passenger service from Odessa to different ports—Constantinople principally. I need not say that two steamers would amply suffice, with one to take the place of whichever should be disabled; therefore, the use of the remaining seventeen is for you to guess.

THE ISLE OF SERPENTS.

The latest accounts from Constantinople represent the question of the Isle of Serpents as having assumed a grave form. The *Journal de Constantinople* of the 29th ult. after stating that the difficulties raised by Russia are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaty of Paris, says:—

We believe that we are thoroughly well informed when we state, that in consequence of telegraphic despatches received the day before yesterday, the English division, under the command of Admiral Lyons, at present anchored at Buyukdere, has received orders to return to the Black Sea. The Admiral himself, on board his vessel, the *Royal Albert*, has not yet left his anchorage; but several frigates, corvettes, and steam gun-boats are preparing to depart.

The Turkish Foreign Minister has addressed a note to the Ambassadors of the Sultan at the European Courts, in which he shows that

the claims of Russia to the isles of the Danube are utterly unwarranted. After referring to those clauses in the Treaty of Paris which relate to the new frontiers between the Ottoman Empire and Russia, the Turkish note says:—

The condition in which the islands at the mouth now are, the spirit of the treaty itself, and this declaration of taking possession—a declaration accepted by the Congress—will be evidence of the intention of our allies as to the future conditions of the mouths of the Danube. In stipulating for the restitution of Bessarabia to Moldavia, they undoubtedly had no intention of wronging Turkey by depriving her of what rightfully returned to her, to unite it to a province having no claim to it.

Our august allies must have recollected the blood shed at Oltenitza, Kalafat, and Silistria.

The object aimed at by Europe in stipulating for the restitution of the mouths of the Danube was the freedom of that river. It is plainly evident that the best means of attaining that object is to place them again in the hands of their legitimate proprietor.

As we have said above, the Sublime Porte, never having conceived any doubt as to its right or the intentions of its allies, took possession of the Delta of the Danube by beginning to carry out improvements. It exercises that right by discharging its duty for the interest of the whole world.

AMERICA.—THE WAR IN KANSAS.

By the *Arabia*, which arrived at Liverpool on Saturday last, we have news from New York to the 24th ult.

Hostilities had recommenced in Kansas. According to reliable intelligence received from the correspondent of the *New York Times* at Lawrence, an army of Missourians, to the number of some twenty-eight hundred men, had reached Franklin with the intention of attacking Lawrence. The citizens of the latter place, relying on the promises of Governor Geary, were wholly unprepared for so formidable an attack; but, resorting to such means as were within their power, they had sent out advance parties to check the progress of the invaders. Some skirmishing, in which several killed and wounded are reported, had taken place. Governor Geary had appeared at Franklin and ordered the Missourians to disband, and it was hoped that the threatened attack on Lawrence may have been prevented.

The following is the despatch:—

Lawrence, K.T., Monday, Sept. 15, via St Louis, Saturday, Sept. 20.

Twenty-eight hundred men, mostly Missourians, reached Franklin yesterday, destined to attack Lawrence. Owing to our reliance upon Governor Geary somewhat for protection, our force is mostly in the country. About five hundred remain, preparing to fight in our fortifications. Our advance guards came into collision last night, and three of the enemy's men are reported killed, none of ours injured. Just then orders came from the Governor, forbidding the approach of the Pro-Slavery forces: they then fell back and camped at Franklin. Four hundred troops arrived here last night for protection. This morning the Governor in person disbanded the Ruffians under General Reed, member elect to the next Missouri Legislature. There are no longer territorial militia; many of them swear they will have blood in spite of the Governor. Our citizens have enrolled as his militia. A collision is feared. Colonel Harvey's regiment fought at Hartford yesterday, and won—killing three, wounding many. Five of Harvey's men were wounded. His whole force were taken prisoners by dragoons while returning.

The following despatch is published by all the New York papers, apparently on the authority of the *St. Louis Republican*:—

St. Louis, Sept. 20.

The steamer *Polar Star*, from Kansas, the 15th instant, reports that Captain Robinson, with a company of fifty-two slavery men, attacked a Free-State force at Grasshopper Falls, on the 13th, killing two of their men, and capturing their provisions, ammunition, and horses. The next day, Col. Harvey, with 200 Free-soilers, attacked Robinson's party, who had fortified themselves in a log-house at Hickory Point. After fighting two hours, and losing twelve men, and having several wounded, Colonel Harvey proposed an armistice of thirty days, which was accepted. Captain Robinson lost three men, killed, and had many wounded. Leavenworth was deserted. Governor Geary was at Leecompton.

The inaugural address of Governor Geary, delivered at Leecompton, Sept. 11, has arrived by this mail. In it he says:—

With a full knowledge of all the circumstances surrounding the Executive office I have deliberately accepted it; and, as God may give me strength and ability, I will endeavour faithfully to discharge its varied requirements. When I received my commission I was solemnly sworn to support the Constitution of the United States, and to discharge my duties as Governor of Kansas with fidelity. By reference to the Act for the organisation of this territory, passed by Congress on the 30th day of March, 1854, I find my duties more particularly defined. Among other things, I am "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed." The Constitution of the United States and the organic law of this territory will be the lights by which I will be guided in my executive career.

The Free-State party complain bitterly of this manifesto. They object that those laws of the territorial legislature are the cause of the whole difficulty. So long as they are in force it is utterly impossible to effect their repeal. They disfranchise, by their test oaths, every man who wishes and would vote to repeal them. If repealed at all, it must be by the Legislature.

The *Atlantic*, which arrived at Liverpool on Thursday, brings news from New York to the 27th ult.

There has been an affray in Kansas between the forces of General Lane (Free-State) and the United States' troops. Forty were killed.

A letter from Westport, Kansas, dated 19th ult., states that Governor Geary, accompanied by a party of dragoons, was in hot pursuit of General Lane, with the intention of arresting him. Lane was making his way to Nebraska. It is said that the action of Governor Geary has met with the approbation of the authorities at Washington.

There was a meeting of the merchants and citizens of New York, on the 25th, in Wall-street, in front of the Merchants' Exchange, to hear an address by Mr. Speaker Banks (Republican). The meeting numbered 15,000 or 20,000, and passed off quietly, with the exception of a few outside rows. Mr. Banks' speech is published at full length in the New York journals.

The steamer *Niagara* was burned on Lake Michigan on the 24th ult., when two hours out from Sheboygan. The number of lives lost is about 100.

THE UNION OF THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.—On Monday evening a public meeting was convened at the Townhall, Brighton, to promote the union of the Danubian Principalities. There was a numerous attendance. Among those upon the platform were—Mr. Hallett (the Mayor of Brighton), in the chair; Mr. W. Scholefield, M.P.; Signor Bratiano, late member of the Government of Wallachia; Dr. Ruge, and several foreigners and influential residents of Brighton and the neighbourhood. The meeting was addressed by Mr. M. D. Scott, Mr. Scholefield, M.P., and Dr. Ruge. The following resolution was agreed to:—"That this meeting is in favour of the union of Moldavia and Wallachia, in order to erect the Roumain people into a free, powerful, and self-governing nation, as the best barrier against Austria and Russia; and that this meeting expresses its earnest hope that the Government of England will, in conjunction with France, insist upon the fulfilment of the resolutions of the Paris Conference, in order to satisfy the just expectations of the Roumain people as to their internal government."

RUSSIAN PROJECTS.—Advices from St. Petersburg furnish the details of the recent subsidies granted by the Russian Government for the formation of steam companies in the Black Sea and elsewhere. They will amount annually to between 400,000*l.* and 500,000*l.*, the line to Alexandria alone receiving 50,000*l.*, besides other privileges. The total capital to be employed is 200,000*l.*, and the shares, which were all taken up immediately, now command 10 premium. The vessels are all to be built to carry guns, "if necessary," and the movement is regarded by many as a clever mode of creating and maintaining a navy so as to evade the Treaty of Paris. Some of the lines, it is observed, are obviously such as never could have been formed for legitimate purposes of trade; and the cry is that Russia will now get effective ships for political purposes at a cheaper rate than if they were avowedly in Government service. The same advices mention that the late statement in *Le Nord* of the concession for the proposed network of Russian railways having been finally granted to the Paris Credit Mobilier, Messrs. Baring, and others, was incorrect, or at least premature.

A CENTENARIAN GUARDSMAN.—John Ewing, at present residing in the parish of Wardsworth, will, within a few days, have completed his 102nd year, having been born on the 16th October, 1754. He served in the Scots Greys seven years and three months, and the remainder of his time—twenty-one years and one hundred and twenty-five days—in the Scots Fusilier Guards. He was with his regiment in France in the year 1793 to 1795; was in Holland with his Royal Highness the late Duke of York; the Irish Rebellion, 1798; taking of Texel, in Holland, in 1799; was in nine general engagements—in Egypt, where he was wounded in both thighs; Nive, St. Sebastian, Vittoria, Salamanca, Ciudad Rodrigo, Fuentes d'Onor, Talavera, Busaco; and after being a non-commissioned officer some years, pay-sergeant, &c., was at last discharged with a pension of 1*s.* per diem. He preserves all his faculties, and still retains the high spirit of a "Scotch soldier." Surely this old soldier's case requires only to be known, and honours and comforts will attend his few remaining days. That there may be no dispute about his age, we give the following extract from the parish register:—"John Ewing, born 16th Oct., 1754, at Carron Shore, parish of Learbert, Stirlingshire. John Bruce, clerk."—*Scotsman*.

WELLINGTON MONUMENT AND DESIGNS FOR PUBLIC OFFICES.

The competition for the premiums to be awarded under the direction of the First Commissioner of Public Works is likely to be very great. 285 applications have already been made for copies of the specifications for the Wellington Monument, and more than half that number of copies have been sent to foreign countries. In the case of the public offices the demand for the block plans and specifications has been still greater. It was announced by advertisements recently issued that these papers would be ready for distribution on the 1st day of this month, and up to the present time upwards of 500 applications have been received, and a large number of copies are being forwarded to foreign countries. The designs for the public offices are to be sent in between the 1st and 20th March next, and will be exhibited in Westminster Hall immediately afterwards. The exhibition will close about the 1st of July, and will be followed by another exhibition of the models for the Wellington Monument proposed to be erected in St. Paul's Cathedral.

THE ISTHMUS OF SUEZ CANAL.

M. DE LESSEPS, a distinguished French diplomatist, has lately submitted to the public of all European countries a plan for shortening the distance between Europe and India, Australia and China, by cutting a ship-canal through the Isthmus of Suez. The trade with the remote East, as our readers know, has for some centuries past been carried on by vessels sailing round the continent of Africa. This route, which all vessels must follow, was formerly considered as the most hazardous voyage on which a sailor could embark. Vessels proceeding on it must weather the Cape of Good Hope—that Cape which the Portuguese in their time nicknamed Cape Tempestuous, while the Dutch called it Cape Terrible. In connection with this Cape and the difficulties of rounding it, the Dutch invented the legend of the phantom ship called the "Flying Dutchman." The Portuguese placed that point of danger and the mariners who undertook to make the voyage under the especial protection of the Madonna; and no ships bound for the Indies left their ports without prayers and offerings to "Our Lady of the Cape of Good Hope."

A long familiarity with the sea-road to India has divested the Cape route of many of its terrors, but not of its inconvenience and danger. Even now, with all our improvements in ships and charts, the voyage is frequently perilous, and almost always of long duration. The tracks of seas to be traversed are enormous; there are but few watering and coaling stations in the way. Hence this route is impracticable for steamers, and fit only for sailing vessels and ships of the description which the French call "mixed" vessels. That is to say vessels provided with sails, and an auxiliary screw to help them on in calms, or in the eventuality of very rough weather. Many of these "mixed" vessels have made splendid passages, more especially between England and Australia. Still these ships and their short passages must always be the exception. The rule is that the carrying trade round the Cape is carried on by sailing vessels, that the voyages are long and expensive, and frequently dangerous.

The plan of M. de Lesseps is to do away with all these inconveniences and dangers by directing the traffic with the East into the channel in which it flowed before dire necessity compelled the European nations first to explore, and afterwards to adopt, the route round the Cape. In former times the trade with the East was carried on by way of Egypt. Trading ships proceeded from Europe to Alexandria, where the goods were unloaded, and carried by caravans to Suez; whence they were carried by ship up the Red Sea, and through the Straits of Babelmandeb into the Indian Ocean. The conquest of Egypt by the Turks, and the rapacity of that then barbarous nation, most effectually put a stop to this trade. The Turks commenced by levying heavy tolls from the merchants, and finished by confiscating their property. Trade thus made impossible in one direction, sought and found another channel; but it is nevertheless true that the ancients were right, and that the shortest and most expeditious route between Europe and the East lies through Egypt. It is on this track, we need hardly say, that mails and passengers are at the present day carried overland to India. They proceed from Europe to Alexandria, travel overland to Suez, and then embark in steamers, which convey them to their destination in the East. Lieutenant Waghorn, the founder of the overland route, was not its discoverer; for he merely retraced the steps of ancient commerce. But we have to thank his unflinching perseverance for the great boon of this short route to our Indian and Australian possessions. Nothing daunted by public indifference and opposition in high quarters, he travelled forward and backward to show that the thing could be done. It was as a great favour that he was permitted to carry the Government despatches across Egypt, to demonstrate to the conviction even of the most unbelieving the practical advantages of the route he advocated; and it is due to him that now the distance between England and India is lessened by two-thirds, and that passengers and letters, commercial advices and samples, can travel by a short, safe, and expeditious route between Europe, India, and Australia.

It is true that in this route freights for passengers and goods are high—so high that the journey overland to India is possible only for the wealthy, whilst none but the most precious goods can bear the charges of the company which undertakes their conveyance. The majority of persons travelling to and from Europe to India and Australia, the great mass of emigrants, the bulk of Indian produce destined for the English market, the bulk of English manufactures destined for India and Australia must still proceed on the route round the Cape. It is the longer and the more hazardous road, but it has no break. While Vessels proceeding to Alexandria can go no further: their passengers and goods must be transhipped and carried to Suez, where they are again put on shipboard—an operation entailing a great deal of expense and delay. We believe that the capabilities of the Overland Route, such as it is, are not sufficiently tested; that time will develop it and generalise its advantages. But, taking even the most sanguine view, we can never hope that the route overland will effectually shorten the road to the East, for emigration and the transport of bulky merchandise.

What M. de Lesseps proposes is a development of Mr. Waghorn's idea. He would cut through that narrow slip of land which separates the Mediterranean from the Red Sea, and open a direct and short way from Europe into the Indian Ocean. In maturing this project he has had the active sympathy of the present Viceroy of Egypt—a Prince who appears to be resolved to spare no exertion, and to make every sacrifice for the great purpose of restoring to his country that abundance and prosperity for which Egypt was famous in ancient times. Assisted by the Viceroy's engineers, M. de Lesseps, made a careful survey of the line of his proposed canal, of the harbour of Suez, and of the Gulf of Pelusium, the nearest point on the Mediterranean. The results of his labours, which were most favourable to the practicability of his project, were in the course of last winter submitted to the examination of a commission of engineers selected from among the chief notabilities of the profession in all countries of Europe. The commission examined not only the estimates of the Viceroy's engineers, but they also went over the whole of the ground, taking surveys and making borings; and the result of their investigations is clearly stated in their report, in which they say "that the direct canal, between Suez and Pelusium, is the only solution of the problem of joining the two seas; that the execution of this canal is easy, and its success certain; and that the two harbours required to be constructed at Suez and Pelusium present no difficulties but such as are of an ordinary character." Upon the report of this commission the Viceroy of Egypt has given his sanction (subject to the approval of his Suzerain the Sultan) to the execution of a maritime canal between Suez and Pelusium. He has done more, for he has advanced £1,200,000 towards the expenses of the undertaking, and he has pledged his word to supply any amount of native labour which may be required for the execution of the work.

Those works, as projected by the commission of engineers, are the cutting of a canal fit for the passage of the largest ships at the narrowest point of the Isthmus, from Pelusium to Suez; the improving the harbour of Suez; the creating a harbour at Pelusium and an inland harbour in Lake Timshah; the cutting of an auxiliary canal to connect the ship canal with the Nile; and the cutting of two small canals for the purpose of irrigation and supply of water to the labourers engaged in the works. According to the estimates of the engineers—estimates formed with a full knowledge of the price of labour and the expense of similar works in Egypt, the cost of the

T H E I S T H M U S O F S U E Z C A N A L.

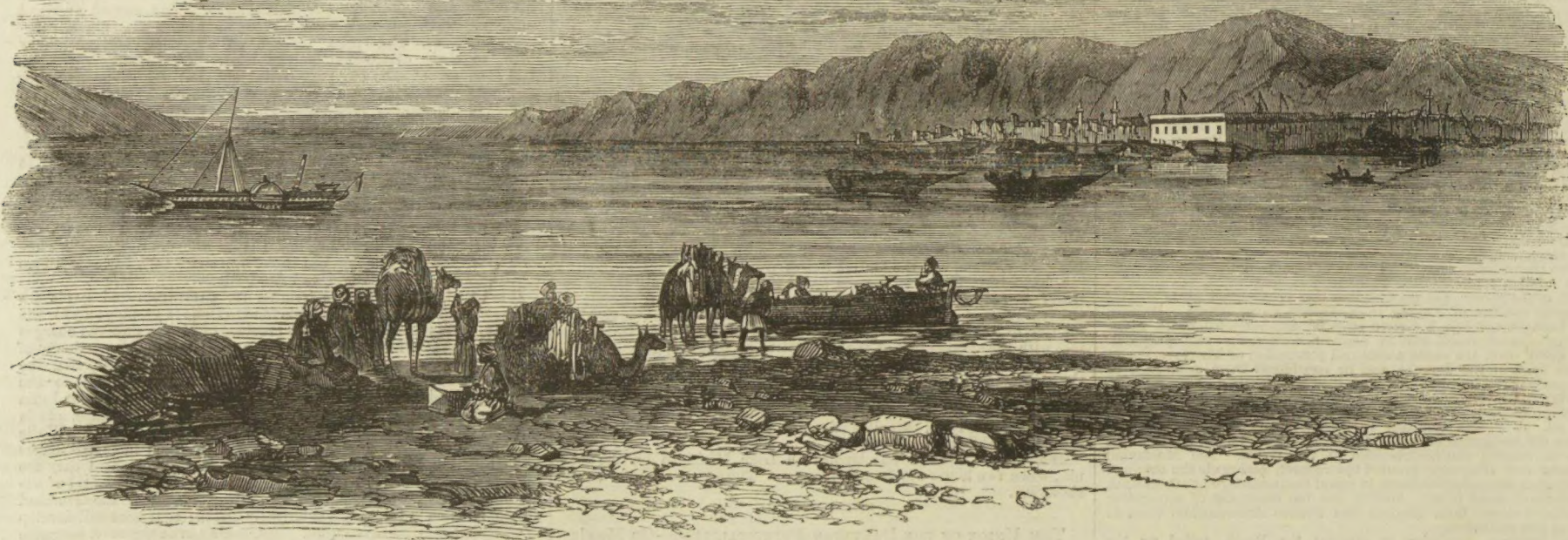
whole undertaking will amount to £8,000,000. This is a large sum, but it is one which has been frequently and profitably invested in great undertakings. It is less by one-third than the sum expended in the railway from London to York, or from Paris to Lyons. It answers exactly to one month's expenditure of England and France during the war with Russia. The revenues to be expected from the undertaking are to be derived from the canal dues on ships passing through, and from the sale or letting of the lands which shall be reclaimed from utter barrenness by means of irrigation from the various fresh-water canals—for among the Viceroy's concessions to M. de Lesseps is the grant of all waste lands which shall be reclaimed by irrigation. Almost the whole of the Isthmus is waste and barren; but it should be recollected that this same Isthmus was in ancient times among the most fertile districts of Egypt—a country, proverbial for the fertility of its soil, and that in Egypt water means abundance and fertility, and the want of it waste and barrenness. That—besides the advantages to be derived from a closer connection with the East—the undertaking advocated by M. de Lesseps has obtained the favour of men of commerce and finance, is shown by the fact that no public appeal was needful to collect the fund necessary for the purpose, but that almost the whole of the eight millions of pounds have been



THE LAKE AT TIMSHAH, IN THE CENTRE OF THE ISTHMUS OF SUEZ.

subscribed by the various nations of Europe.

But it is not to be supposed that, the money found, the course of the Isthmus of Suez Canal is clear and free from obstacles. The undertaking has a political as well as a commercial side. It wants still the ratification of the Sultan, and it wants what is even of more importance, the sanction of the great Powers of Europe in the shape of a convention, declaring the proposed canal to be a neutral passage, which shall at all times be open to the trading ships of all nations. The Sultan is reported to be personally favourable to the scheme, but the Turkish Government have of late placed difficulties in its way, and if report says true, these difficulties are mainly to be attributed to our Ambassador, Lord de Redcliffe, who from the first seemed disposed to adopt a hostile attitude with regard to M. de Lesseps' project. The Home Government, too, though it has not openly declared its hostility, has at least treated the proposal of discussing the political question connected with the Suez Canal with a coolness amounting to aversion. This we deplore the more as the scheme is daily gaining greater popularity, since it appears to promise the greatest advantage to the extension of our trade and the confirmation of our power in the East. All the nations of Europe are agreed in desiring a short shipment to India and Australia by means of the Isthmus of Suez



VIEW OF SUEZ, FROM THE COAST OF ASIA.

Canal. Great Britain alone stops the way. It would be more satisfactory to urge what can be urged against a scheme which, on the face of it, promises us such signal advantages. At all events, if, as is reported, the Government is opposed to the execution of the canal, we have a right to expect that the Government organs should tell us the reason why?

The accompanying views are from photographs of scenes in connection with the above reflections.

First, is a view of a portion of Lake Timshah, the enormous basin in the centre of the Isthmus, which at a lower level than either the Mediterranean or the Red Sea, extends over an area of three square miles, and which, according to the opinion of the best naval authorities, would, if brought in connection with the sea, become an inland harbour of sufficient depth and extent to shelter all the commercial navies of the world. It need hardly be said that in Lake Timshah, and in the bitter lakes nearer to Suez, extending over an area of ten square miles, and likewise below the level of the two seas, Nature has, as it were, commenced the work of the junction of the two seas.

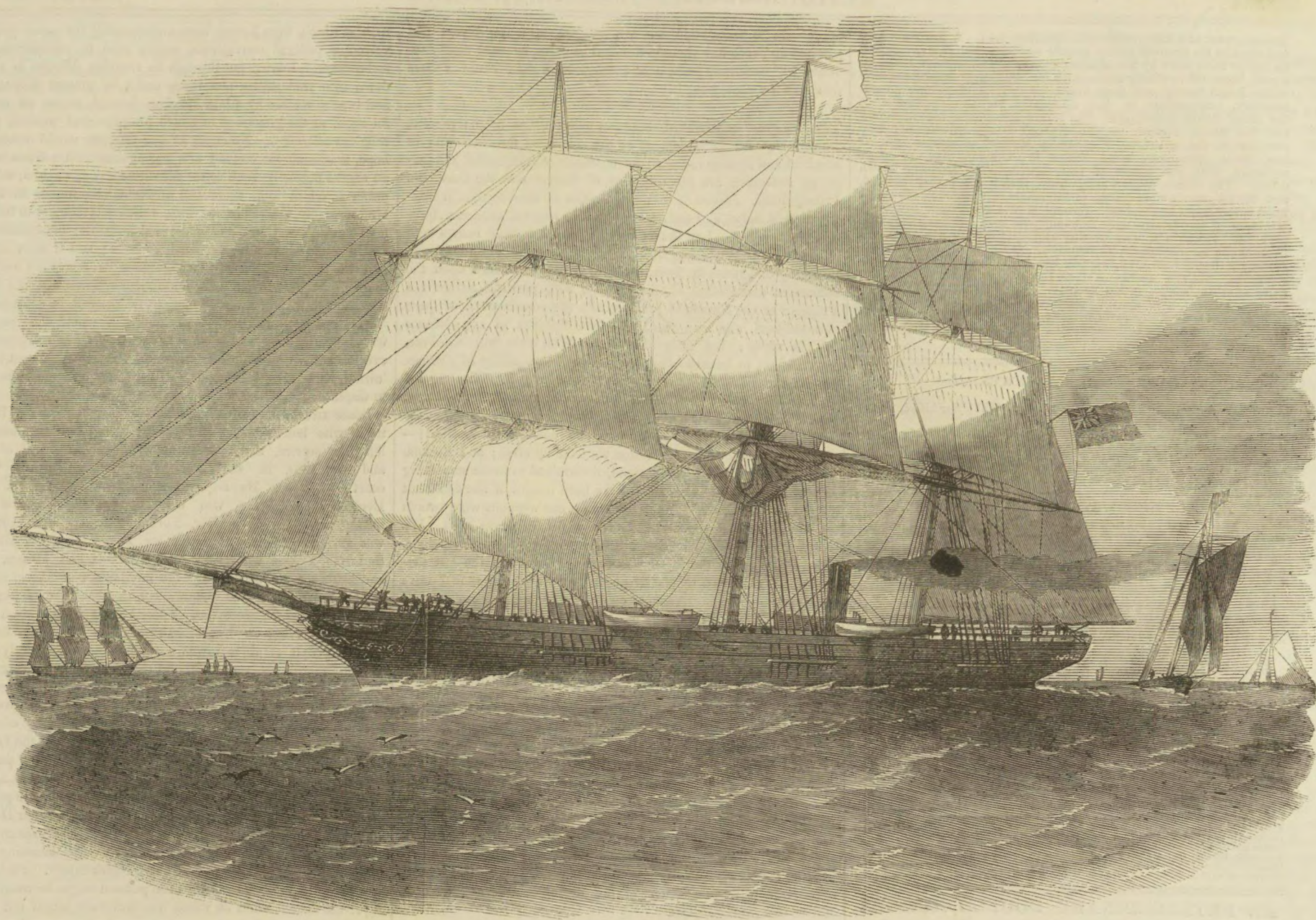
Next, is a view of the town and harbour of Suez, taken from the Asiatic coast; the buildings at the foot of the hill—a spur of the Attaba mountains—are the fort and custom-house, the grand hotel,



OASIS, SOUTH-EAST OF PELUSIUM.

and several mosques, stores, and private buildings. All these, it is needless to say, have sprung up since the establishment of the Overland Mail. The harbour, deep and safe, and of extraordinary capacities, is as yet little used, for the steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company conveying passengers and mails between India and Suez do not, of course, make a protracted stay; and, owing to the existence of the Isthmus, trading ships have at present but small inducement to proceed to Suez and avail themselves of the accommodation its harbour affords.

Thirdly, is a view of an Oasis to the south-east of Pelusium. An oasis or spot where grass and trees thrive, may be found throughout Egypt wherever a spring of water enlivens the arid deadness of the soil. The oases on the Isthmus of Suez may be said to be the last remains of ancient cultivation and history-renowned fertility. The luxuriant vegetation which spontaneously springs up wherever fresh water is conducted to cool and moisten the ground shows not only what ancient Egypt must have been, but also what modern Egypt might become, if, in connection with the maritime canal across the Isthmus of Suez, a system of fresh-water canals were to spread the water of the Nile over a wilderness which waits but for that one gift of heaven to become a land of abundance.



THE "ISTANBOUL."

THE AUSTRALIAN AUXILIARY STEAM-CLIPPER,
"ISTANBOUL."

THIS beautiful clipper-ship, of 1470 tons builder's measurement, built for the Australian Auxiliary Steam-Clipper Company by Pyle, of Sunderland, is appointed to leave London on the 10th, and Plymouth on the 15th, of next month, with passengers and mails for Melbourne. The use of the screw, as an auxiliary, instead of a principal, in steam navigation, is now admitted; and the adoption of the contrary system has indisputably led to the dissolution of more than one company; thus practically supporting the opinions of the advo-

cates of auxiliary screws to clipper-ships, which have subsequently been demonstrated to be correct by the test of experiment. The combination, as proved by recent experiments, is expected to obviate the well-known delay and uncertainty which occurs in the case of the present clipper-ships, in consequence of calms, on the line and elsewhere; as well as the frequent detention, on the voyage, of ordinary steamers, from failure of machinery and taking in fuel.

The *Istanboul* is the first ship of the above company, and is a masterpiece of naval beauty. She is 230 feet long by 36 feet 6 inches beam, 23 feet depth of hold; and is propelled by auxiliary engines of 100-horse power: she is expected to make the voyage out in sixty days,

and home in seventy days. Messrs. Bennett and Aspinwall are the brokers of the *Istanboul*; of which an excellent lithograph has been published by Mr. Foster, of Leadenhall-street. The company have two other vessels ready to follow, respectively of 1100 and 1400 tons.

RESIDENCE OF THE EX-ROYAL FAMILY OF OUDE.

THE London residence of the illustrious Orientals is Harley-house, a detached residence with a small lawn in front, surrounded by a high brick wall, with an entrance from a side street, which runs into



HARLEY-HOUSE, NEW-ROAD, THE RESIDENCE OF THE QUEEN OF OUDE.

Regent's-park at a right angle with the New-road. A few trees here and there in the grounds give it greater seclusion, but it is overlooked on two or three sides by the adjacent houses. It has been taken for a year, though it is wholly inadequate for the proper accommodation of the Royal family and their numerous retinue of attendants and retainers, amounting in the aggregate to 110, exclusive of the three Royal personages. The young Prince, the heir apparent, and his uncle, brother to the deposed King, occasionally take exercise in the grounds. The Queen Mother, of course, with all her female attendants, some thirty in number, live in strict seclusion, with the blinds of their apartments constantly drawn down. The house was wholly unfurnished when they entered, and the attendants were driven to improvise substitutes for furniture until better could be obtained. Several of the moonshoes and other retainers of the family may frequently be seen strolling about the grounds. The Prince, who recently attained his twentieth year, and is about the middle height, is described by Captain Brandon as exceedingly frank and kind-hearted, but bashful in the presence of strangers. Though unable to speak English, he has been well educated after the fashion of his country. The General is stout, above the average size, with a good presence, and about thirty-three years of age. The Queen Mother is between fifty and sixty, and of *embonpoint* figure, of a light copper-coloured complexion, like that of her son and grandson.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Oct. 12.—21st Sunday after Trinity. Wat Tyler killed, 1381.
MONDAY, 13.—Fire Insurance due.
TUESDAY, 14.—William Penn born, 1640. Battle of Jena, 1806.
WEDNESDAY, 15.—Allan Ramsay born, 1686. Murat shot, 1815.
THURSDAY, 16.—Martyrdom of Ridley and Latimer, 1555.
FRIDAY, 17.—St. Etheldreda. Sir Philip Sidney killed, 1586.
SATURDAY, 18.—St. Luke. Cambacérès born, 1755.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 18, 1856.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
0 20	0 45	1 5	1 30	1 45	2 5	2 30	2 50	3 10	3 30	3 50	4 15	4 35	4 55

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1856.

THE article which immediately follows was written before we had received the details of the Austrian seizure of Galatz and the mouths of the Danube. We have nothing to retract in that article; for events which have subsequently transpired only prove too fully, and too surely, that Austria is the enemy with whom England and France have at this moment to deal, in the interest of the tranquillity of Europe; and that interference with the King of Naples is useless and impertinent peddling, while Austria is allowed to do as she pleases. The Austrians, it appears, have not only seized upon Galatz, Ibrail, and all the Turkish ports of the Danube, and quartered their troops on those towns, but have taken possession of the military stations, the police bureaux, and the post-offices; so that all persons, all business, and all communications must pass through their hands. Is this done by connivance with Russia? Or is it a desperate move on the part of the Emperor of Austria, on his own responsibility, to secure a compensation for the apprehended loss of his Lombardo-Venetian provinces? We cannot say. Time will show, no doubt, the motives and objects of this extraordinary and nefarious act; but, whatever they may be, it is quite clear that the Powers which made war against Russia for the illegal seizure of the Danubian Provinces should immediately declare it to be a *casus belli*, if Austria do not forthwith evacuate not only the places it has just seized, but Bucharest and Jassy, and the whole of Moldavia and Wallachia. The Conferences at Paris—which settled nothing in March last but an unworthy and worthless

peace—are to reassemble, we are told, within a few days. The patched-up peace has already dropped asunder, or very nearly so. When will statesmen learn that courage in a good cause is more than half the victory?

THE two great questions of European policy which at the present moment clamour for settlement at the hands of the men who in England and France aspire to the character of enlightened and far-seeing statesmen are the questions of Naples and the Danubian Principalities. Insurrection is on the point of breaking out in various parts of Italy; and the Austrians, with a corps of 4000 men, have occupied Galatz. Let the two facts, and all their causes and antecedents, be considered together. The pressure of financial and monetary difficulties in France, with their natural action upon the commerce and finance of this country, will, perhaps, induce the Emperor of the French to procrastinate the consideration of these two subjects, and lead the British Government to acquiescence in his views; but Italy and Moldo-Wallachia will continue, nevertheless, to be stumbling-blocks to the tranquillity of Europe. England and France are at this moment reaping in difficulties the natural fruits of the short-sighted policy which dictated the Peace of Paris, without securing a basis on which peace could securely rest. During the war there were two enemies to confront;—Russia, to resist whose aggression we took up arms; and Austria, playing the part of a false friend, determined to make something out of the war, but who might have been bought if she could not be converted to honesty. Against Russia our weapons were swords and guns, and the stout hearts and hands of brave men. We did not use these materials as fully as we ought to have done, for we renounced the legitimate fruits of victory at the last moment, and dismissed with courtesy the foe whom we should have punished. Against Austria our weapons were those of diplomacy. If we had not to fight, we had to treat with her; and we refrained from doing so. For the rich bribe of the Danubian Principalities, upon which she has set her dishonest soul, she would, if properly urged, have given up Lombardy and Venice; and Turkey, deprived of those provinces, would perhaps have been content with Bessarabia, Georgia, and the Crimea, which, if the Allies had pleased, they could have wrested from the present possessor, and handed over to the original proprietor. But neither of these things was done. Italy and its wants were ignored. The question of the Danubian Principalities was left to the chapter of accidents. The Austrians were allowed to remain in possession till the very name of an Austrian stank in the nostrils of Moldavians and Wallachians. At the present moment public feeling in the Principalities is so exasperated that no possible rearrangement of the European system would induce the Moldo-Wallachians to tolerate their annexation to the heterogeneous and detested empire of Francis Joseph.

We see already a few of the complications, contradictions, and vexations which this absence of high principle on the part of Great Britain and France has brought into the actual condition of Europe. Their threatened intervention in the affairs of Naples is resisted by Russia—and very properly, considering why war was made against herself in the Crimea. It is also resisted by Austria—the Power whose intervention in favour of the Pope against his own subjects, and in Luca and Parma, against the Liberal party in Italy, and more especially against the King of Sardinia, is one of the most glaring violations of the principle of non-intervention which it is possible to conceive. Austria, through a semi-official article in the *Journal de Francfort*, warns Great Britain and France against interference in Italy. Why should not Great Britain and France take her at her word? Why should not they reply "We will not interfere in Italy, neither shall you"? This might be done, if Great Britain were the only opponent of Austrian policy; but, for good or for evil, this country has linked itself to the personal fortunes of the Emperor Napoleon, and cannot reply to Austria as justice and sound logic would dictate. The consequence is, that the two great nations which stand at the head of modern civilisation find themselves in a false position. Both of them know the right course; and one of the two, though willing to pursue it, is united with an ally who has selfish objects, incompatible with a just and comprehensive policy. We interfere to achieve the constitutional freedom of the Neapolitans, and Sicilians—a result which is not worth achieving, if it is to be accompanied by the subjugation of Rome, and of the Lombardo-Venetian provinces. And to combat revolution in Italy, which we have no reason to fear, we lend ourselves to measures which have no purpose but to preserve the *status quo*, which, as far as this country is concerned, is either not worth preserving, or is so little a business of ours that the interruption of the *status quo*, and the remodelling of the map of Italy, would be to us, and to all Powers interested in the permanent peace of Europe, a matter of positive advantage.

In the case of the Danubian Principalities there is the same unworthy and dangerous truckling to Austria on the part of France and England. What is Austria to England, or England to Austria, that we should be afraid of her? What is France to Austria, that France—so powerful, so highly-placed, and so strong in herself—should defer to the exigencies of the Kaiser? If Austria fell to pieces to-morrow, Europe and humanity would exist all the same; and perhaps Europe and humanity would be all the better for the collapse. To meddle with such a paltry potentate as the King of Naples is mere make-believe and sham, while we leave such a monster offender as the Emperor of Austria, unchallenged and undisturbed. To tell Ferdinand to amend the evil of his ways in Naples, and to leave Francis Joseph in unprotested possession of Moldo-Wallachia, is unworthy of Powers who have assumed the high duties and responsibilities of Great Britain and France. If these Powers are to keep the peace of Europe, let them begin with the great disturbers. When these are taught reason—either by fear or by any other agencies—the little offenders will cease to give them trouble.

THE American newspapers have brought intelligence of a rupture between England and Mexico. They state that our Minister there has demanded his passports, and sent for an English squadron to blockade the Mexican ports. There must, we presume, be some exaggeration in this, as it is tantamount to a declaration of war against a State which has of late been on very friendly terms with

us, and which, from having been unfortunately for some years involved in political convulsions, merits from us consideration and forbearance. Having got through its troubles, Mexico is settling down into tranquillity and order under its present Government, and is now, we see by a late Mexican journal, intent on securing for itself, as the great step to future progress and welfare, perfect religious toleration. No envoy of her Majesty would venture, we hope, to commit the country to a war against such a State without an urgent necessity, such as we cannot believe has arisen, while the public is left in total ignorance of the whole matter in dispute. Unfortunately, the loss of the *Tay*, which was charged to bring the mail from Vera Cruz, has prevented authentic information from reaching this country by the usual channel; and if such information be in possession of the Foreign office, it has not been made known. As Parliament is not sitting, it is optional with the Foreign Secretary to withhold from the public, till the evil be consummated, the reasons for assailing and weakening a nation that may be a useful political ally and a commercial friend. We happen, however, to possess some little knowledge on the subject, and the following, we believe, will prove to be a correct outline of the matter in dispute.

Some twenty or more years ago a Mr. Barron, an Englishman, who had served in a Spanish army sent against Peru, left that service, and established a mercantile house at Teipic and San Blas, in the province of Jalisco on the western coast of Mexico. He acquired some fortune and fame, and in December last year was carrying on his business there, having as partners a Mr. Forbes and his own son, who was also her Majesty's Consul for Teipic and San Blas. At that time Mexico was a prey to civil broils, and Messrs. Barron and Forbes were accused by the inhabitants of Teipic and San Blas of having fomented disturbances and been very active on the side which was not successful. Special facts were alleged against them as occurring on December 13th. We know not the truth, but the people of these towns accused them very stoutly of contravening both the municipal and the fiscal laws of Mexico. In January last they presented a petition, very numerous signed and strongly reasoned, to Senor D. Santos Degollado, the Governor of Jalisco, stating these asserted facts, complaining bitterly of the conduct of Messrs. Barron and Forbes, and praying that the Governor would send Mr. Forbes out of the country as a "pernicious foreigner," and withdraw the exequator from Mr. Barron, junior, who, they alleged, had abused his Consular power for the protection of fraud. Complying with the prayer of the petition, Senor Degollado excluded Mr. Forbes from the province, and refused to acknowledge the younger Mr. Barron as her Majesty's Consul, breaking up their establishment and causing them considerable injury. Perhaps this was not done according to law; the petition might be considered as a private denunciation on which the Governor ought not to have acted; but some allowance must be made for a people and their rulers embroiled in civil contests. It was imputed to the Englishmen that they supported with great zeal the unsuccessful cause; and if they really sided with one party they might expect the animosity of the other. Strong, however, in their rectitude, and in the support of her Majesty's Minister in Mexico, Messrs. Barron and Forbes carried their case before the general Government, and made demands for redress. Mr. Lettsen, her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Mexico, siding entirely with them, insists, it is said, on Senor Degollado being severely punished for his conduct, while Governor of Jalisco, towards those gentlemen, and that there shall be paid to them as compensation for the injuries they have suffered the sum of two million dollars. On the Government, after some negotiation, refusing to comply with his requisition, Mr. Lettsen has demanded his passports, and has ordered, it is said, her Majesty's ships, to blockade the coast of Mexico.

We give this brief version of the dispute as it has reached us, but we are too imperfectly informed of all the details to offer any opinion on the merits of the case. While on the one hand it is the duty of the Government to protect all her Majesty's subjects to the utmost of its power from personal injury or spoliation, it is also its duty to take care that its power is not abused by its agents, and that British subjects under its protection do not mingle in civil broils in other States. Our Government undertakes to give effect to the fiscal laws of China, and it would be very inconsistent were it to lend its power to protect the violators of the fiscal and municipal laws of Mexico. We remember with some shame the enormous claims of Don Pacifico, enforced by an English fleet against the Government of Greece; and we are always apprehensive that all claims made on feeble States by individuals who suppose that they can get our Government to back their demands may be equally unfounded. Before such cases be made the justification for putting fleets in motion, impeding trade, and running the risk of involving us in further quarrels, they ought to be submitted to some mixed commission or impartial tribunal. Diplomats are always commissioned to take a side, they are bound to stand up for the supposed power and honour of the country which commissions them, and are generally wanting in the impartiality which is proper to a judge.

BLenheim.

We have received a letter, written, we think, with much needless asperity, from Blenheim, by a writer who gives us his name in a private communication, in reference to the article in our last Saturday's publication, headed "A Visit to Blenheim," and stated to be "from a Correspondent." The writer affirms, firstly, that "national liberality had very little to do with the building of Blenheim or the tasteful laying out of its grounds." Secondly, that the Duke of Marlborough issues no cards of admission for Blenheim Palace, or for viewing the park, and that the assumed "charge of ten shillings for six persons for the privilege of visiting the palace, the gardens, and the park," is "a barefaced untruth." The "Duke," adds the writer, "gives tickets as a favour, and these tickets are only an admission to his own private gardens. There is admission, without any ticket, to the palace three days in the week—a privilege which the writer believes is rarely granted in other places," but which we happen to know to be commonly granted by the nobility and owners of fine estates. According to the writer—whose letter we quote in all its main points—this privilege is "a great tax upon the comforts of the Marlborough family." The public gardens or arboretum, he states, "may be visited daily without tickets; and the park may be seen any day, and traversed on foot from one end

of it to the other, without ticket, and without fee or reward; and although, of course, when parties go to see a magnificent palace and gardens like Blenheim, and take a man on horseback to show them the park, they must expect, as at other places, less worthy of being seen, to give some gratuity to those who show them round. There is no sum, as a fee, fixed at all by the Duke, who gives strict injunctions to the servants and gardeners to demand nothing; and for the tickets to the private gardens, the gardener has orders never to take more than 5s. for a party of six." "I am sorry to say," continues our Correspondent, "that, though the tickets are given to persons who are expected to refrain from all damage, they frequently pass into hands which require all the vigilance of the person who attends them, and six persons are as much as one man can manage to watch. The expenses of the Duke of Marlborough to keep persons to attend upon the parties who wish to see the gardens far exceed any little emolument the gardener may derive from the visitors, and if such ill-natured and unjustifiable remarks are to be made upon the Duke's well-intentioned kindness, I fear (adds our friend, who speaks with authority) it will end in his shutting up Blenheim Palace and Gardens altogether from public inspection." In answer to our Correspondent we desire to state that we have no wish to throw any aspersion upon the Duke of Marlborough, whom we believe to be an amiable, kindly-intentioned, and generous person; and whom we know to bear this character amongst those who have the privilege of his acquaintance. But the notoriety of the complaints that are made with respect to the admissions to Blenheim is sufficient to justify the Duke in asking whether his servants are as free from blame in the matter as he is himself? How is it that no complaints are ever made of the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth? of the Duke of Rutland at Haddon? of Lord Amherst at Knowle? or of any other nobleman in England, except the owner of Blenheim? If there be any park or palace in England that the people of England have a moral right to visit, it is the Park and Palace of Blenheim.

THE COURT.

The return of the Court has been delayed until Wednesday next, on which day her Majesty will travel south as far as Edinburgh; and, passing the night at Holyrood, come on to Windsor Castle on Thursday.

The weather has been more favourable during the past week than for some preceding days, and the excursions of her Majesty and the Prince Consort have consequently been less interrupted.

On Saturday Miss Nightingale arrived at Balmoral, on a visit to her Majesty.

On Sunday the Queen, the Prince Consort, and the Princess Royal, attended Divine service at the parish church of Crathie. There were likewise present the Duchess of Wellington, the Hon. Mary Seymour, Miss Nightingale, Lord Panmure, Major-General the Hon. C. Grey, Col. the Hon. C. Phipps, and Sir J. Clark. The service was performed by the Rev. Dr. Macleod.

On Monday the Queen drove to Glen Veg, and rode thence to the summit of Craig Cluny. The Prince Consort went on to the hill deerstalking.

On Tuesday the Queen drove to the Linn of Dee, and afterwards took tea with Lady Agnes Duff. Her Majesty visited the Falls of Corrieulzie on her return to Balmoral.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent left Abergeldie Castle on her return to the south on Thursday.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, and the members of her household, have arrived at Gloucester House, from the Ranger's Lodge, Richmond-park. Her Royal Highness purposes to reside during the winter in town.

Lady Peel has arrived at Whitehall-gardens from Bedfordshire.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LORD DE FREYNE.

THE RIGHT HON. ARTHUR FRENCH BARON DE FREYNE, of Artagh, in the county Roscommon, and of Coolavin, in the county Sligo, in the peerage of the United Kingdom, and Lord Lieutenant of Roscommon, was the eldest son of Arthur French, Esq., of French Park, in Roscommon, M.P. for that county from 1785 to 1820, by his wife, Margaret, daughter of Edmund Costello, Esq. He was born in 1795, and succeeded, at his father's death, in 1820, both to the family estates and to the representation of the county Roscommon. Mr. French sat in the House of Commons from 1820 until the passing of the Reform Bill, and distinguished himself on all occasions as an active and able advocate of Liberal measures. He was, in May, 1839, raised to the Peerage of the United Kingdom, by the title of Baron de Freyne, of Artagh.

He married, in 1818, Mary, daughter of Christopher McDermott, Esq., by whom (who died the 7th Sept., 1843) he had no issue. Lord de Freyne obtained, on the 22nd Feb., 1851, the further Barony of De Freyne, of Coolavin, with remainder to his brothers and their male issue. His Lordship died on the 29th ult., at 71, Connaught-terrace, Hyde-park, and is succeeded in his latter Barony (the other becomes extinct) of De Freyne, of Coolavin, by his next brother, the Rev. John French, Rector of Grange Silva, county Kilkenny, who is now the second Lord de Freyne, and is unmarried. The other surviving brothers are Captain Charles French, 81st Foot, and Fitzstephen French, Esq., of Lough Erritt, present M.P. for the county Roscommon, and Colonel of its militia, who married, Nov. 24th, 1839, Charlotte Emma Georgina, daughter and coheir of the Hon. Henry Grey Bennett, and has issue a son and two daughters.

The family of French (originally De Freigne, or De Fraxinus), of Norman descent, came over to Ireland with Strongbow, and has ever since held a high and honourable position there. Colonel John French, of French Park, surnamed "The Tierna Moor," who was the head of the house at the Revolution, commanded a troop of King William's Enniskillen Dragoons at the Battle of Aughrim. Arthur French, of French Park, who was drowned at sea in 1775, was to have been created Lord Dugar. This peerage his brother and successor declined; and Arthur French, M.P., who was the son of this brother, and the father of the Lord de Freyne just dead, refused the offer of an Earldom to support the Union, and also the offer of a Barony, without any condition.

SIR COLIN HALKETT.—(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)—I think you are wrong in stating that Sir Colin Halkett entered the English service as an Ensign in the 3rd Buffs. Sir Colin was a Major in the Dutch army when, in 1803, he received a letter of service to raise a battalion of riflemen, with the promise of the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the event of succeeding. This battalion became the 2nd Light Battalion of the King's German Legion; the 1st Light Battalion being given to Count Charles Alten. When the latter obtained the command of the Light Division, Halkett became chief of the Legion Light Brigade—a corps much distinguished throughout the Peninsular War (see Beamish's "History of the King's German Legion," vol. 1, 1832).—Your obedient servant, K. G. L.

CONSECRATION OF ST. MICHAEL'S AND ALL ANGELS' CHURCH, TENBURY.—This church, built and endowed at the expense of the Rev. Sir Frederick A. Gore Ouseley, Bart., was duly consecrated on St. Michael's day, by the Lord Bishop of Hereford, in the presence of the nobility, clergy, and gentry of the neighbourhood. Attached to the church will be a college, which is in the course of erection, and is intended to provide for thirty regular occupants, for whom dormitories and offices are being prepared by the generosity of the worthy Baronet. The inmates are to be the sons and orphans of poor clergy, to whom a liberal education will be given in return for their choral services. The church is cruciform in plan: the columns of iron-grey stone, contrasting with the capitals, which are of white freestone, elaborately carved. The ceiling is painted, and the pavement tessellated with Milton's encaustic tiles in different patterns. The south transept has a magnificent organ by Flight, of London; it is as yet incomplete, but when finished will have a full complement of stops and a fan of solo trumpet pipes. The pulpit, the gift of Captain Otley, is carved in the corners with the figures of the Evangelists; and the stained windows and the communion plate and altar vestments are of the richest description. The consecration sermon was preached by the Right Rev. the Bishop of the diocese, and a collection, which realised a large sum, was made after the sermon.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE NEW BISHOP OF LONDON.—On Monday afternoon a general meeting of the clergy of the Archdeaconry of London was held at St. Saviour's Church for the purpose of addressing Dr. Blomfield on the occasion of his resignation of the Bishopric of London, and consequently ceasing to be a visitor of the College. The meeting was addressed by several of the leading beneficed clergymen in the Archdeaconry, and resolutions were adopted expressive of regret that the Bishop's health had compelled him to resign his See, and declaratory of their conviction that during the many years over which his episcopate had extended he had been instrumental in an extraordinary degree in advancing the real interests of the Church. An address to the late Bishop founded upon the resolutions was adopted.

PROPERTY AND INCOME-TAX ASSOCIATION.—On Wednesday night a preliminary meeting was held at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill, for the purpose of obtaining a speedy reduction of the tax to sevenpence in the pound, and a more equitable adjustment of the charge upon income.—Mr. Attwood Smith, the vestry clerk of St. Bride's, Fleet-street, was called to the chair, and remarked that the double Income-tax pressed heavily upon every one, so as to paralyse most. If the society was formed and carried out, and good reason shown to the Government for the reduction in the tax, considering that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had three millions of surplus capital in hand, there would be little doubt that the tax would be modified and reduced. Mr. Higham moved that an association be formed to obtain the objects of the meeting.—Mr. Petter seconded the resolution, which was carried.

PRINTERS' PENSION SOCIETY.—A meeting of the Committee of Management of the Printers' Pension Society was held on Tuesday, at the London Tavern, for general business. The twenty-ninth annual report stated that the annual dinner only produced 243*l.*, a sum much below the usual average. The annual subscriptions had also suffered, and it had been found necessary to draw upon the invested fund for 100*l.* to clear up the expenditure of the past year. That sum is, however, a portion of the interest, which is strictly applicable to the current expenses of the society, and must not be considered as so much capital withdrawn, but only so much less invested. The property of the society at the date of the last audit was 6997*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, invested with the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, and 754*l.* Reduced Three per Cent. A legacy of 50*l.* has been received from the executors of the late Mrs. McArthur. A new regulation has come into operation, by which the widows of pensioners of seventy years of age are entitled to a pension of 9*l.* without election, three of whom are now receiving the benefit thereof. The amount paid to pensioners exceeded 600*l.* last year; and, since the foundation of the society in 1827, 200 male and female pensioners have been placed on its funds, and at the last election 57 were receiving its benefits. A further election will take place in March next year.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—On Monday a meeting was held in the theatre of this institution, to hear an inaugural address from the Rev. J. B. Owen, on the occasion of the opening of the classes for teaching, at very low fees, adapted to the means of all, the subjects required by the examiners of the Society of Arts. On the motion of Mr. Pepper, the Rev. Dr. Booth, treasurer of the Society of Arts, took the chair. The Rev. J. B. Owen said they were assembled there that evening to inaugurate the commencement of a highly-important conjunction on the part of that institution with the Royal Society of Arts, with respect to its department of examinations for prizes and certificates for the pupils of science. He begged to express his gratitude to the council of the Society of Arts for the liberal concession which they had made in this case, and which was highly creditable to them, and which was in accordance with the true genius of science—which, like true religion, was a question of no party, but is in the interest of every party whose symbol is "the Jerusalem above, which is free, and the mother of us all." The fees of each class, of fourteen lessons, proposed to be opened, would be 5*s.*, or at the rate of 4*d.* for each. Great credit was due to Mr. Pepper, the lessee of the institution, for having ventured upon this experiment of cheap philosophy and science made easy, to bring down their ennobling studies to within reach of all classes in the metropolis. He trusted the effort would be seconded by the number of pupils desirous of availing themselves of the privileges of the institution in this regard. After a few brief speeches from some of the gentlemen on the platform, thanks were given to the chairman and Mr. Pepper, and the meeting separated. There were between 1000 and 2000 persons in the theatre.

CHARTIST POLITICAL SOIREE.—A "grand political soiree" was given at St. Martin's-hall on Monday evening, under the auspices of Mr. Ernest Jones. About 600 people assembled to partake of the entertainment, and they consisted principally, as it seemed to us, of the class of respectable mechanics. At each extremity of the hall was placed a cloth screen, bearing the devices, "Alliance of the Peoples," and "Union is Strength." Shortly after eight o'clock a number of ladies and gentlemen made their appearance on the platform, and were immediately followed by Mr. Ernest Jones. The whole party received from the company a cordial welcome. The first portion of the musical entertainment consisted of songs and choruses with accompaniments on the pianoforte, in which the principal performers were Mr. and Mrs. Jennings, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. H. Manley, and Mr. J. Lowry. One of the songs was the work of Mr. Ernest Jones, and was entitled "The Song of the Working Classes." The singing and the playing were fairly gone through; but without any indication of remarkable musical capacity or culture. Mr. Ernest Jones then commenced an address on the relations of labour to capital. We do not deem it necessary to follow him through any portion of its details. He complained at considerable length of the miserable condition of the working classes in this country, in spite of the fact of their being the only producers of comfort and wealth. He said he was no Communist, and that he was no advocate of an equal partition of property; but he did not see why the working classes, the creators of property, should be the only men who had no property of any kind. He would remedy that by enabling a large portion of the people to settle on our millions of waste lands. The remaining portion of the programme of the evening's entertainments was then duly disposed of, and the company, who unquestionably seemed much pleased with the proceedings, separated shortly after eleven o'clock.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—A meeting of the depositors in the Royal British Bank was held on Monday night at St. Martin's-hall, for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee appointed on Friday, the 5th of September. Mr. J. Wyld was in the chair. The Chairman read the report, of which this is an abstract.—On Friday the chairman had an interview with Mr. Harding, who had been appointed the interim manager, and who told the chairman that he intended to conduct the affairs of the Royal British Bank without reference to the interests of the solicitors; and, as an earnest of his intentions, he had issued forms for the proof of the debts of the depositors; and that, according to his powers under the Act, he intended himself to carry the proofs before the Judge, and that he would thereby save the estate the expenses of the attorneys' charges, which he estimated would, under the former practice of winding up joint-stock companies, have amounted to 6000*l.* or 7000*l.*; that he found the claims against the bank to be 6000 in number; that if the depositors would accept a composition of 15*s.* in the pound he would pay a dividend of 5*s.* in the pound in the month of December, 1856, and issue promissory notes under the authority of the Court of Chancery for the payment of 5*s.* in the pound at the end of six months, and 5*s.* in the pound at the end of twelve months. The committee regretted to say that no proposition for an amicable arrangement had yet been made to them either by the directors or by any large body of the shareholders, but that delays had been occasioned, and according to present appearances no progress would be made till after the appointment of the official manager on the 13th of October. They called upon the depositors to appeal to the Vice-Chancellor for an equality of representation with the shareholders before the Judge. Mr. Coleman afterwards addressed the meeting, and said that if they did not accept those terms, and went on to obtain the full amount of their deposits, the shareholders would contest their liability. He would advise them to reflect on the suggestion he had made (to accept 12*s.* in the pound), for the assets did not show more than 12*s.* in the pound independently of the liabilities. The appointment of Mr. Coleman as official manager was carried unanimously, and a resolution that the committee be empowered to entertain any proposal for a reasonable compromise.

THE DRAINAGE OF LONDON.—The great question of removing the sewage of London was brought on at "a special meeting" of the Metropolitan Board of Works, on Monday, called "for the purpose of considering the report of the engineer of the board on the whole question of the northern and southern drainage, with comparative estimates of different points of outfall, and modes of disposing of the sewage." On the motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Hows, two resolutions, passed by the board at previous meetings, were rescinded on the ground that they fettered the discussion of the main drainage question. Mr. Carpmad moved that the engineer's report, as far as it relates to the outfall at B on the plan (being between Erith and Woolwich) be adopted. As an engineer, he contended that Plumstead Marshes was the true point of outfall for the sewage of the metropolis, both in an engineering and sanitary respect. Mr. Seeley seconded the motion, as he believed that the engineer of the board most approved of an outfall at Plumstead Marshes, and that such outfall would be cheap, simple, and effective. The motion was rejected, as were several others; and the board, after a sitting of upwards of four hours and a half, adjourned till next Wednesday, when the report of the engineer on the drainage question will be considered in its entirety.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The total number of deaths registered last week was 1071—of which 540 were those of males, 531 those of females. Last week the births of 828 boys and 768 girls, in all 1596 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55 the average number was 1417. In the thirteen weeks that ended 27th September, 14,066 persons died in London, which is about a thousand more than in the same quarter of 1855.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

SIMULTANEOUSLY with the return of the Emperor of the French to his capital, an official report is presented to him upon the finances of the Empire, and although this document will be perused in its entirety by but a fragment of those who would devour every line about a Tuilleries ball or a Bayonne bull-fight, there are numbers of English readers for whom it will have much significance. The best characteristic of the document is that, although it preserves a certain congratulatory tone, akin to that which convention always demands in such statement, it really discloses a fair proportion of truth, and suggests a good deal more. Some of the reasoning by which the reporter affects to sustain his encouraging views of the condition of French finance can scarcely be designed to impose upon anybody; but the form of the statement is of little consequence, while its material contents show that the Government comprehends the situation, and is resolved to deal broadly with its requirements. Those who are capable of understanding, or even of appreciating the value of the great question of all, the Currency question, will watch with the utmost interest the course which the French Government adopts in regard to its finances.

The foreign mails are not particularly full of matter, and their contents may be placed under a single head. The splendid balls, with which the festivities of the Russian coronation have concluded, are duly chronicled, and even Poland and Hungary must throb with pleasure to learn that the new Emperor is a gentleman of so amiable a character that when in a dance people knock up against him, he not only does not send them to Siberia, but actually becomes the apologist. It is also gratifying to England to know that whatever else she may have gained by the peace, Lord Granville's reputation as an Amphitryon is firmly established upon the basis of his grand entertainment, and that the Emperor, magnanimously forgetting the thundering denunciations hurled against him by Sir Robert Peel, has danced with the wife of the man who would—some months ago—hear of nothing but the annihilation of Russian power. The Neapolitan crisis has not apparently advanced, but King Ferdinand is thought to be growing more obstinate, and consequently the Powers will have to carry out their threats. The question of the union of the Danubian Provinces occupies much attention on the Continent, and a little in England, for a meeting has actually been held upon the subject, and the speakers seemed all to have carefully informed themselves of the geographical position of the districts in question. The Powers are stated to be determined to have Bolgrad for Turkey, when marking out the new Boundary Line; and, if Russia concedes this amicably, there is talk of allowing her to have some sort of interest in the Isle of Serpents. We do not observe much else requiring note, so far as the Old World's affairs are concerned; but there are hints of a new difficulty with the American Government, which is being officially counselled to take possession of the Isthmus of Panama—a course which cannot be permitted by England, and which would not be thought of by any but such a Government as Mr. Pierce's. The pretext is, the ferocity and outrages of the natives, who render transit most dangerous, and some of whom have recently taken part in a cruel massacre. Their criminality might, and does, offer a very good reason why a common police of civilised nations should clear the road; or why the Americans themselves, acting for civilisation generally, should sweep these savages from the great highway with fire and sword; but can afford no excuse for the step suggested; nor do we believe that such a course will be attempted. Finally, it would appear that England proposes, rather peremptorily, to the Mexicans that they shall take some measures towards the liquidation of their bonds; and this intimation has excited some affected indignation in the United States, who have always behaved so gently in the matter of Mexico, and so honourably in the matter of bonds.

Some speeches have been made in various places by members of the Legislature, including the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who introduced the gentlest possible praise of the peace, reminding his hearers that there were many treaties recorded in our history which had been most unacceptable to the people, but which had not, in the end, been so injurious as had been anticipated. There certainly is no meeting this kind of reasoning. A curious correspondence has been published, to which Mr. E. J. Hutchins, the member for Lymington, and some of his constituents, have been parties. It seems that Mr. Hutchins, when elected, professed himself to be a Protestant; but that he has since had the misfortune to be seduced into apostasy, and has joined the Roman Catholic Church. A body of his constituents call upon him to resign his seat, and the perversity, after examining the signatures to the requisition, announces that he shall do nothing of the kind, as only 32 of 158 who voted for him appear to have signed it. There is really a necessity for reforming the law—or custom—touching the retention of seats in Parliament by unworthy persons. We do not say that a pecuniary misfortune, or even a moral error, ought invariably to vacate a man's seat; but it is most outrageous that the present system should endure. When a man changes his religion he ought to apply for the Chiltern Hundreds, and give his constituents the right to say whether they desire to continue him in their service. Specially ought this to be the case in a conversion to Popery.

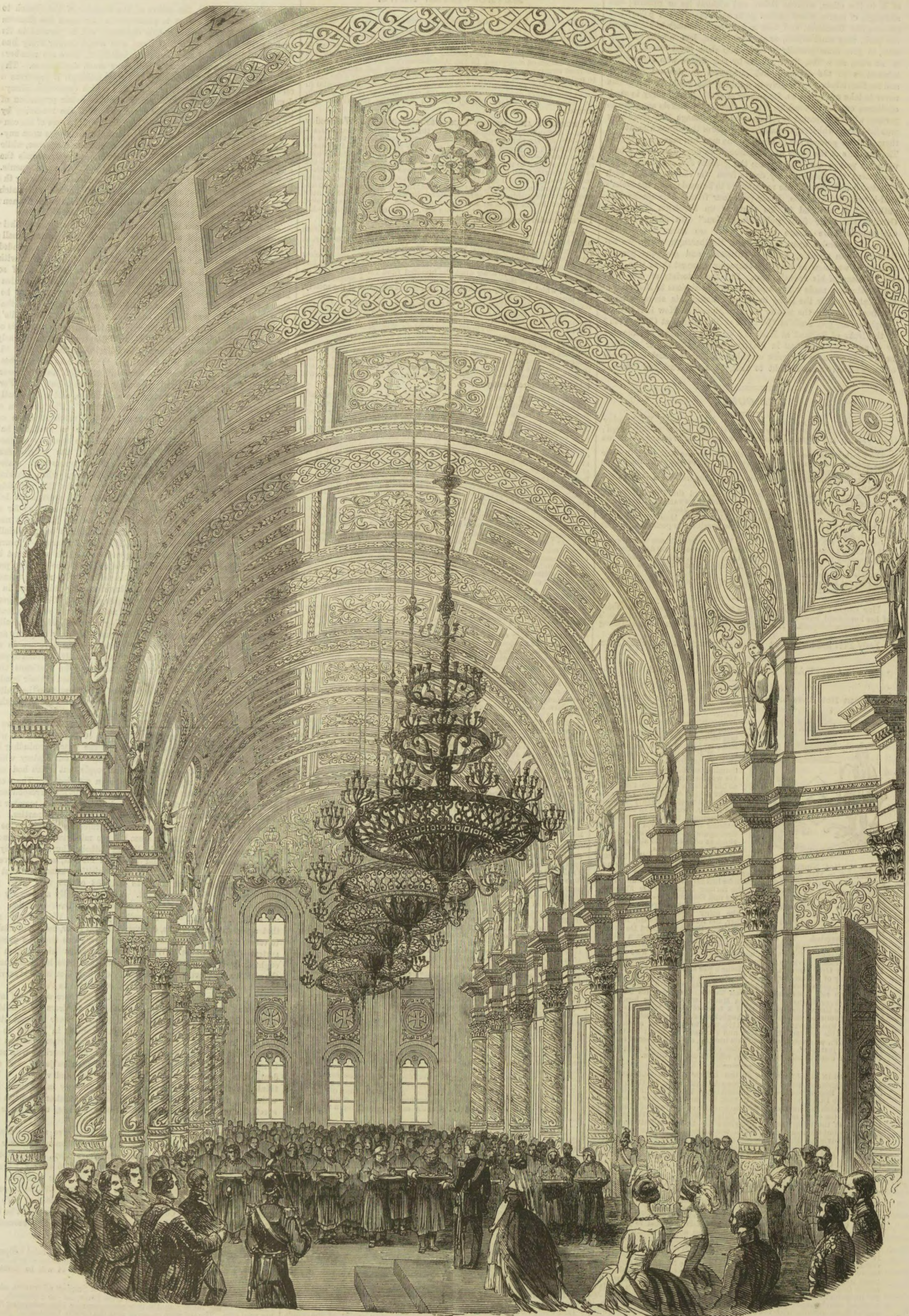
Surely we have had a little too much Crimean hero-worship of late? Lieutenant Massy, whom some over-foolish admirers have dubbed "Redan Massy," has written a long letter in answer to some strictures of the *Globe* on a demonstration made in Ireland to his honour. The letter is much too long, but the writer disclaims the least idea of believing himself to be a hero, and describes with some humour the hero-worship to which he has been subjected, and evidently has enjoyed, as is natural to his age and vocation. We think the *Globe*, which is unequalled for military information, but which has rather a habit of look at military questions through the spectacles of the authorities at the Horse Guards, might have let the young Irishman alone.

Mr. Walter Savage Landor's friends should give a more careful and affectionate eye to his doings. An old gentleman, whatever his early services to literature or liberty may have been, should not be allowed to publish a ridiculous letter, offering £95 to any "tyrannicide" who may turn up. The affair is at once ludicrous and scandalous. If Mr. Landor wishes to throw away £95, is there no member of his own family to whom it would be welcome? We can conceive an Imaginary Conversation in which the sum might be better disposed of than in exciting the cupidity of some foreign scoundrel.

ECLIPSE OF THE MOON.—There will be a nearly total eclipse of the moon on Monday next, the 13th inst. It will commence at 21 minutes past nine p.m., and end at 27 minutes past midnight. It will be visible at Greenwich.

A COLLISION IN THE MERSEY.—Last Sunday afternoon, about three o'clock, the schooner *Margaret*, from Liverpool for Plymouth, was run down in the Mersey by the new screw-steamer *Vigo*, returning from her trial trip. The collision occurred near the Crosby Light ship. Fortunately the captain and crew of the *Margaret* were saved. The steamer sustained little or no injury.

THE RUSSIAN CORONATION CEREMONIES.



THE EMPEROR RECEIVING BREAD AND SALT IN ST. GEORGE'S-HALL.—(SEE PAGE 368.)

THE RUSSIAN CORONATION CEREMONIES.



THE EMPEROR RECEIVING THE CONGRATULATIONS OF THE AMBASSADORS IN THE SALLE DE ST. ANDRE, —(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

CORONATION CEREMONIES AT MOSCOW.

THE HALL OF ST. GEORGE.—THE EMPEROR RECEIVING BREAD AND SALT FROM THE DEPUTATIONS.

OUR View represents the splendid apartment called the Hall of St. George—the victorious patron saint of Moscow from the time of its foundation. This Hall, which is of a colossal size, has a semicircular headed ceiling, divided by nine broad bands resting upon a bold entablature, supported by columns having a moulding running spirally round them. The spaces between the bands are filled with compartments—the centre one of each division being enriched with a flower and flowering scroll; the others only contain a flower in its soffit; the bands themselves are also richly ornamented with scroll-work. The Hall is lighted by two ranges of windows on one side, which are situated in deep recesses; the arched ceilings and the walls between the upper and lower ranges are enriched with the insignia of the military order instituted by the Empress Catherine in 1769, with the device, "Pour les services et la bravoure." Upon the walls between the columns are rendered inscriptions, engraved in marble, to the various Russian regiments who have distinguished themselves in battle, with the time of their formation, and the days of their victories; also the names of the Knights of the Order of St. George. Six massive bronze chandeliers are suspended from the ceiling. The figures on the entablature over the pillars represent the victories over various kingdoms; upon the shields which they hold are inscribed the names of the kingdoms and provinces, and the date of their annexation. The general effect of this apartment is singularly striking.

On quitting the Cathedral, after the Coronation ceremony, their Majesties, accompanied by the Court, walked to the Kremlin. At its gate they were received by the Court clergy with the cross and holy water. The Archbishop of Moscow here presented the Emperor with bread and salt; and immediately afterwards a salvo of 101 guns announced, at five p.m., that the Imperial family had entered the Palace of their ancestors.

Then took place the presentations of bread and salt by the deputies of the provinces in St. George's Hall—some of the plates being of great magnificence: one of solid gold, beautifully worked; another, bearing bread and salt, by the merchants of Nishni Novgorod, was interesting, from its being a facsimile of the shield of Poyarski, whose expulsion of the Poles from Moscow preceded the elevation of the House of Romanoff. Poyarski was a native of Nishni Novgorod.

THE EMPEROR RECEIVING THE CONGRATULATIONS OF THE AMBASSADORS, AND THE DEPUTATIONS FROM THE PROVINCES.

This reception took place in the Throne-room, St. Andrew's Hall. This Hall is a superb apartment. At one end is the Imperial throne, in purple and gold, with seven steps ascending to it. Above is emblazoned "L'Éclat de Dieu," surrounded by a golden glory. The walls are covered with blue, the colour of the St. Andrew ribbon, with the armorial bearings of all the kingdoms, principalities, duchies, and provinces of the Russian empire; and between the windows are represented, in gilt relief, the chain and cross of the Apostle. At the upper end of the Hall, on the day of the Coronation, on the left-hand side, had assembled a crowd of persons at one side of a small table. They were feasting their eyes on the crown, the sceptre, and the globe, which were to be used presently in the great ceremony of the day; and we find that, in addition to heralds and pages, the Court negroes are mentioned. First was the reception of the clergy, forming one long procession of Archbishops and Bishops, preceded by the Metropolitans, and followed by Archimandrites.

One of the most beautiful and interesting scenes was the entry to the Kremlin of the various Ambassadors, ordinary and extraordinary; such a congregated display of worldly grandeur is very rarely witnessed. It would be a vain attempt to particularise, and we shall therefore but briefly allude to a few.

Perhaps Prince Esterhazy's equipage was in exquisite taste. The State carriage was drawn by six horses, on both the leaders were postillions; these were preceded by four outriders with a brilliant hunting kind of costume, in which bright blue and silver predominated. On either side the Prince's carriage walked twelve footmen, bareheaded, as they carried their plumed hats in hand; twelve of these footmen was a study, being a fine combination of bright amber cloth, laced superbly with broad silver lace, and red, gold, and blue trimmings; near to the carriage of the Prince walked four officers of Hussars—the loose jacket being rich amber cloth, richly decorated with silver lace, and edged with fine silver-grey fur; bright blue pantaloons, laced with silver superbly; yellow Hessian boots. The cortège stopped exactly opposite to where we were placed, and we therefore had a good view of the Prince, who looked in excellent good health; and the bland expression of his features said plainly, I am tolerably satisfied with my worldly position and the figure I am making on this occasion.

MUSIC.

THE ROYAL SURREY GARDENS COMPANY have terminated their first season of concerts, under the direction of M. Jullien, and the result has been more than sufficient to prove the complete success of the enterprise, and to realise the most sanguine expectations of the projectors. This is shown by the Company's first half-yearly report, which states that, after defraying all expenses, a surplus remains on hand sufficient to pay a dividend of five per cent on the paid-up capital for the half-year ending on the 1st of January next. To lay out these spacious gardens so beautifully, to erect within them the magnificent concert-hall which has not its equal in Europe, and to plan a series of entertainments so new and so splendid, argued boldness and spirit. Yet the scheme was not rash or hazardous. It was evident that such entertainments were a desideratum for the public of London, and the means for providing them were calculated with judgment as well as liberality. There is no country in the world where out-of-door pastimes are more delightful than in England, though our variable climate renders their enjoyment precarious; and it is only when people find themselves secure against unfavourable "skies influences," that they will resort with confidence to our public parks and gardens, how tempting soever they may be. This is now the case with the Surrey Gardens. The public can enjoy the delicious freshness of an English summer evening, or step in a moment under the roof of a building bright and beautiful as an Eastern palace; while in the one position as well as the other their ears are enriched by the strains of Jullien's superb orchestra. The pleasure of the entertainment is enhanced by the care bestowed on the comfort and convenience of the company. Indeed, we can think of only one arrangement of this nature which yet remains to be made—a more ample provision of vehicles to carry the visitors to distant parts of the town. The want of this accommodation, and the consequent difficulty in getting home, have prevented many from visiting the Gardens.

The success of the season is mainly attributable to the exertions of M. Jullien—to the admirable music which he provided, and to his skill and energy in the direction of the performances. It has long been admitted that no one has done so much as Jullien in educating the taste of the middle classes, and this may now be said of him more strongly than ever. Without speaking of the gorgeous festival which inaugurated the opening of the Hall, and which did not fall short of our most renowned music-meetings, it may be observed that the ordinary shilling concerts of the season have been of a quality entirely without precedent. A powerful and select orchestra and chorus, joined to a succession of the greatest singers and solo-performers of the day have executed the *chefs-d'œuvre* of the great masters in the highest branches of the art—the grand orchestral symphonies of Beethoven, the oratorio choruses of Handel and Mendelssohn, and the finest songs and concerted pieces of the German, Italian, and English stage—in a manner not to be surpassed; all these being pleasantly intermingled with the light and brilliant dance-music, which has always been a peculiar feature of Jullien's entertainments. Between the styles there is no antagonism; for Jullien's fantasias, quadrilles, and waltzes are perfect things in their way, and we pity the amateur who is too fine to enjoy them.

The concluding night (as we mentioned last week) was on Tuesday, the 30th ult. The Gardens and the Hall were crowded to overflowing; and, after a brilliant concert, which went off with the greatest spirit, M. Jullien, before leaving the orchestra, was greeted with enthusiastic cheers, prolonged for several minutes.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY have commenced their weekly rehearsals, in preparation for the approaching season. The first took place at Exeter-hall on Friday (last week), and was conducted by Mr.

Fitmann, the organist of Lincoln's-inn Chapel, in the absence of Mr. Costa, who has not yet returned from abroad. There was a good attendance of the orchestra and chorus, and the rehearsal of the choruses in Handel's "Dettingen Te Deum" was careful and satisfactory. The twenty-third annual report of the committee laid before the last general meeting of the society has now been printed. The financial statement shows a small deficit on the year, the expenditure having happened to be somewhat greater than usual. The report adverts, in strong language, to the culpable conduct of the directors of Exeter-hall in neglecting to provide sufficient means of ingress and egress to and from the large hall. It states that every opportunity has been taken to urge this matter upon the attention of the board of directors. "But," say the committee, "after the very strong remonstrances which during several years past have been addressed to the directors from this and other societies, as well as by the public newspapers, it is with extreme regret that the committee are still unable to report any progress in the settlement of the question. Whether these appeals will in time have weight with those who have an easy remedy in their own hands, or whether the question will be allowed to remain in abeyance till some awful calamity forces Government interposition to compel a safe and reliable mode of exit from all places of public resort (Exeter-hall included), the committee rest assured that the members of the society and the public will absolve them from any consequences arising from what has been described as the 'culpable neglect' of others." What aggravates the misconduct of the proprietors of Exeter-hall in this affair is the ascertained fact, that it is quite practicable to provide ample means for safe and speedy egress from Exeter-hall; a plan of the necessary alterations, made years ago, having been urged by the Sacred Harmonic Society again and again on the attention of the committee of proprietors, who remain deaf to every appeal. In what position would these gentlemen stand were the disaster to happen the danger of which they so obstinately refuse to provide against?

HERR ERNST, who has been passing some time at Boulogne, where he lately had a brilliant concert, is daily expected in town, previous to his going to fulfil some provincial engagement at Manchester and (we believe) Sheffield. We are happy to learn that he contemplates giving a series of musical soirées (or "Winter Evenings") during the season.

JULLIEN'S usual winter series of PROMENADE CONCERTS will be given this season at her Majesty's Theatre, arrangements to that effect having been made with Mr. Lumley.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Shakspeare's beautiful drama of a "Midsummer Night's Dream" will be produced here on Wednesday next. The subject combines all that the most poetical imagination has ever conceived of harmony and grace in language and construction, and we naturally anticipate an additional instance of the perfect manner in which Mr. C. Kean realises the ideas of the greatest master in his art which the world has ever produced. In this play, the cold accuracy of historical detail gives place to the more fanciful and glowing creations of the fairy mythology; while music and pictorial accessories lend their aid with peculiar propriety. We fully expect that Mr. Kean will achieve a new triumph in the production of the "Midsummer Night's Dream." Only six weeks have elapsed since the season commenced with "Pizarro," which is now followed up by another revival on the same magnificent scale, but of a totally opposite character.

STRAND.—Burlesque makes hard struggles to live, and is no longer dainty as to the food on which it exists. Leaving tragedy, and the other productions of high tragic and epic art, it condescends at last to melodrama, and taking advantage of Mr. Charles Dillon's popularity in London, adopts the subject of "Belphegor," and contrives an extravaganza out of non-heroic materials. The venture has succeeded better than might have been expected. This new burlesque is written by Mr. Leicester Buckingham, and is remarkable for a dialogue perfectly intelligible, with points directly aimed at the follies of the hour, and cleverly hitting their marks. But still more remarkable is the thorough likeness which Miss Cuthbert manages to assume of Mr. Dillon in the part of the French mountebank; nor is she less successful in imitating his peculiar and exceedingly natural style. Madeline is caricatured by Mr. H. J. Turner; and the villain of the piece, here called *Ikey*, is admirably impersonated by Mr. J. Clarke. Miss Thirlwall, as the benevolent songstress, sang charmingly; and little Master Edouin, whom one sees at all the theatres in turn, enacted Belphegor's starving boy to perfection. The burlesque was preceded on Monday by the drama constructed from Mr. Charles Dickens's *novelle* entitled "Hard Times," and which called into requisition the performers already named, and also Mr. Kinloch, whose fashionable portrait of James Heathcote, Esq., was well conceived, and very ably finished. We may also mention Mrs. Woolridge, in *Mrs. Sparsit*, as having acquitted herself very respectably. In fact, this small theatre appears at present to possess an excellent company; and, if we may judge by the audience on Monday, to meet with well-merited patronage.

SURREY.—The melodrama of the "Flower Girl" has been revived at this theatre, and attracted considerable attention. Mr. Creswick's impersonation of the convict Marquis, *Michael Cranou*, is certainly one of his best parts. This gentleman evidently affects such characters, and has "an alacrity for sinking" into their conditions, in which so much evil is mixed with their good that judgment is sorely puzzled through the play to know which predominates. Mr. Creswick likes the ostentation of bravery and feeling, the interest arising from the various turns of fortunes, and opportunity for the exertion of physical energy: all these he finds in his equivocal hero, and is assisted in by Miss Marriotti—who, with herself, was called before the curtain. To Mr. Widdicombe, also, the drama is much indebted for its success.

MR. WOODIN AT BRIGHTON.—We are happy to find that Mr. Woodin is attracting crowded audiences to the banqueting-room at the Pavilion, with his amusing "Olio of Oddities." His entertainment is admired, as being unique as well as excellent: "the princely style in which it is got up" is particularly praised. Mr. Woodin's exertions to amuse are indeed indefatigable, and deserve the patronage which they are receiving.

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE.

A new weekly journal, "devoted to literature and art!" Does any one fancy that such an enterprise is likely to succeed? Amidst the bewildering crowd of cheap periodicals which cover the counters and darken the windows of booksellers and news-vendors, can a newcomer hope to find "scope and verge enough" to make its merits known? Were the question put to the vote among the literary men and women of the metropolis, the answer would be in the negative by an overwhelming majority. No class of people has less faith in new literary undertakings than those who have had large experience of failures. The first remark which one expects to hear from the majority of such persons is that the new periodical, whatever its claims to success, is doomed to perdition. The only point left doubtful is with regard to the length of time which may be required to give it the inevitable *coup de grace*. For our own part we must confess that we incline rather to welcome a new literary journal, when it makes its appearance under the direction of trustworthy conductors. We have great faith in the ultimate success of every periodical which deserves to succeed, and we are glad to say that the *National Magazine* has already given good proof of its belonging to that class. The first two numbers contain a series of sketches, stories, critiques, and essays, by eminent writers, which will bear comparison with most of the high-priced magazines. The opening article, on "Alfred Tennyson," is by a thorough admirer of the poet laureate; one who has entered into the very soul of every verse that Tennyson has written, and discerned its excellence with a loving spirit, yet not without discrimination, as his remarks on "Maud" demonstrate. "Uncle George," a story of thrilling pathos, by Wilkie Collins, and the opening chapter of "A Low Marriage," by Miss Mulock, show that the announcement in the prospectus as to the powerful staff of contributors was no mere empty promise.

SURREY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Bishop of Winchester has consented to take the chair at the meeting of the members of the Surrey Archeological Society, to be held at Lambeth Palace, by permission of the Archbishop of Canterbury, on Friday, the 31st inst.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

HER MAJESTY (at the wise instigation of Lord Brougham—if, indeed, her Majesty needed any prompting in the matter) has been graciously pleased to grant a pension of £100 a year to the widow and children of the late Mr. Gilbert & Beckett. There is no person in the three kingdoms who will not rejoice at this just assignment of a portion of the £1200 a year which Parliament, in its wisdom, intrusts to the Prime Minister for the time being. The widow of Mr. & Beckett deserves it well, and for two reasons. Mr. & Beckett was an author who contributed importantly to the harmless stock of public pleasure, and a public magistrate whose decisions on the bench were invariably governed by that rare union, well-digested law and plain common sense. He died, too, in the prime of life, suddenly, and by a malignant disease, and the public has thus publicly acknowledged its debt of obligation to a favourite author and an efficient public servant.

Colonel Wyndham, the envied owner of the noble collection of pictures at Petworth, is still deaf to the siren voices of the Lancashire witches, as represented by the men of Manchester. How is this? Lord Egremont would have lent, and liberally, or we have much mistaken the noble Lord. There are examples of certain artists at Petworth of which equally good examples are not to be found elsewhere. These Colonel Wyndham should most assuredly lend for such an occasion. The Committee, we understand, can now well afford to lessen the list of pictures asked from Petworth, by specimens, fine as they are, of Vandyck in his English period. They have got from other collections examples equally good. Cannot the gallant Colonel and the Manchester Committee come to some understanding in favour of a shorter list?

Collectors are often crotchety—it matters not whether nobles or commoners. Thus the Duke of Wellington declines to send to Manchester his celebrated Correggio. Why? Because his Grace is next year about to grant fresh facilities to the public for seeing Apsley House, as if Apsley House would be shorn of its beams by the absence for six months of the King Joseph Correggio; as if Apsley House is not all and everywhere Arthur Duke of Wellington. We should like Prince Albert to talk to the Duke for half an hour upon this subject. Then the Marquis of Lansdowne declines to lend his Rembrandt's "Mill," but consents to lend the two finest pictures that Gilbert Stuart Newton ever painted. Newton's "Olivia Primrose" and Newton's "Polly Peachum" can no more be replaced than Rembrandt's "Mill." The loss of the "Mill," fine as it is, would not lessen in any sensible degree the means we possess of judging the genius of Rembrandt; but the loss of the "Newtons" would be the loss of the two pictures which represent the best the genius of that painter. The noble ex-statesman is more chary of the great Dutchman's fame than the fame of our great half-English, half-American painter. Never mind. There are others, solicited and unsolicited, who contribute in the enlightened spirit of the true collector—from her Majesty herself and the Prince Consort, down to Mr. Davenport Bromley and Mr. Fuller Maitland. The Art-Treasures Exhibition will prove a world-wide attraction without the little Correggio and the little Rembrandt.

Subscribers who are tired of Art-Unions, blank prizes, or prizes not worth having, are carrying their guineas to an Art-Manufacture Association, to open in Edinburgh in the month of December next. Instead of obtaining as prizes bad oil pictures or worse water-colour drawings, the prizeholders at this novel lottery will carry away a gold watch, a gold bracelet, a gold chain, an Axminster carpet, a Worcester dinner-service, a set of Birmingham tea-trays, a couple of Paisley shawls, a case of Sheffield knives, large and small, with silver mountings, and other dainty and artistic peculiarities; a dozen dining-room chairs, a sofa such as Cowper would have loved to describe in "The Task"—with we know not what other things, admirably adapted to people about to marry and people already married. We know of several distinguished subscribers to this sensible undertaking, and shall venture our own guinea in modest expectation of at least a dozen dining-room chairs.

We have already recorded the pension granted to the widow and children of Mr. Beckett. We have now to add that Mr. & Beckett's associates on *Punch* are bringing the body of their friend and fellow-author to England for interment. Mr. & Beckett's burial at Boulogne was still more sudden than his end. The poet Churchill died at Boulogne, and was buried at Dover. The poet Campbell died at Boulogne, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. Mr. & Beckett will be buried in the Cemetery at Highgate, and few will pass by his grave without some expression denoting the pleasure which his works have afforded both to young and old.

English sculptors and English architects are not altogether pleased with the want of protection in the throwing open to the world of the Wellington monument for St. Paul's and of the new Government offices at Whitehall. "We imported Le Scur, but Flaxman was a Briton born as much as George III. We borrowed Vandyke, but we produced Inigo Jones. Other nations, it is said, do not affect so wide a liberality." The King of Prussia did not invite world-wide competition for the fine monument at Berlin of the great Frederick; and yet Prussia produced a noble monument to the warrior-poet King of Prussia. The Napoleon Column in Paris—the finest thing of the kind since the Trajan Column—was not obtained by a universal suffrage in art. When St. Paul's Cathedral was destroyed in the Great Fire, we did not invite competition, but gave the work to a young man all but unknown, and that young man proved to be Christopher Wren. It is true (we are stating what artists talk) that Barry got the Houses of Parliament by competition, but (on the other hand) Railton obtained the Nelson Monument, in Trafalgar-square, by the same uncertain process. Is it right (for tongues artistic will run on) that our monument to our greatest soldier should be the work of a French artist, however able, whose father fought with Napoleon against Wellington? The poet had at least Scotchmen with him, who sang—

For never but by British hands
Shall British wrongs be righted.

The King of Sardinia intrusts the Crimean Monument of his nation to the Sardinian Baron Marochetti. I suppose Marochetti will get the Wellington Monument for St. Paul's. When England takes a Continental liking there is no reckoning to what lengths she will run. However, we are committed to the universal competition, and we shall soon see the result.

AN EXCURSION TO THE ROMAN LEAD MINES, &c., IN THE PARISH OF SHELVE, SHROPSHIRE.—In your paper of the 4th instant on the above interesting subject, it is stated that 25*l.* per ton is a fair average price for pig-lead. This being erroneous, you will perhaps permit me to acquaint your correspondent and readers that at mines adjacent the war prices did not quite reach an average of 24*l.*; and for seven years—from 1846 to 1852 inclusive—the average price did not exceed 17*l.* per ton. I am, &c., AN OLD SUBSCRIBER, Kensington, October 8, 1856.

PRESENTATION.—On the 29th ult., a handsome chased silver inkstand was presented to the Rev. Arthur Y. Marshall (late Curate) by the churchwardens, and principal inhabitants of Bedworth, Warwick, upon his leaving the Curacy.

THE ASSUMED PREROGATIVE OF THE CROWN IN MATTERS OF PEACE AND WAR.

The late events in the Crimea and at Paris—and more especially those now taking place in the Danubian Principalities—will dispose men's minds to consider the philosophy of questions of peace and war, and the machinery by which the destinies of the world are worked out. Upon the whole these proceedings have not tended to exalt the popular estimate of the amount of wisdom required for the government of States; they have even left a vague impression that, both in the directing intelligence and in the executive functions, a great deal is open to revision and improvement.

To go to the bottom of the question at once, the generally-accepted theory is that the right to make war and peace is the sole inheritance and prerogative of the Crown, and that its subjects have only to pay the expenses of the one, and submit to all the odium of the other, with liberty to grumble *à discretion* through the constituted organs of the Parliament and the press, when it is too late for their recriminations to affect the result. It seems inconsistent and absurd that a people who claim the right of exercising through their representatives, a controlling voice in all other matters of State policy, from the regulation of the succession to the Crown to the merest tax-bill, should have no deliberative authority in that which concerns the honour of the country before the world, the lives of thousands, and the expenditure of millions of treasure. It seems anomalous that the Crown should have the exclusive privilege of declaring war, when it cannot put a single soldier on foot, nor man a single frigate, without the previous sanction of Parliament; and it seems inconsistent with the dignity of Parliament that after it has voted ample supplies for carrying "big wars" into the very heart of Europe, it should be in the power of the Crown, by a stroke of the pen, to compromise all matters of difference by an unworthy peace; throwing all the expensive preparations back upon our hands, to waste; piled up in stores, to rot away for ages, memorials of a great nation's credulity and misdirected energies. Secret diplomacy and war by prerogative are unworthy a free and intelligent people; let us inquire whether they are really part and parcel of the common law of the land, or only a usurped authority and an abuse.

We have before us a curious old volume—entitled "Essays upon: I. The Palace of Power; II. The Right of Making War, Peace, and Alliances; III. Universal Monarchy, &c., &c., London; printed for James Knapton, 1701"—which throws a light upon this subject, with an amount of detail and authority which we do not recollect to have met with before in any one work. The writer disputes *toto calo* this pretended prerogative of the Crown, and proceeds with great industry to examine all the authorities which could possibly bear upon the subject, including, as most important, the Chronicles and Parliamentary rolls from the time of the Conquest down to Charles II. From these references we gather that although Blackstone (who wrote later) lays down the prerogative very briefly and very positively, without reference, however, to any authorities, "the fathers of our law," as Ranulphus de Granville, who wrote in the time of Henry II.; Bracton, who lived about the time of Henry III.; Britton, *temp.* Edward I.; Horn, whose "Speculum Justiciariorum" is supposed to have been written in the time of Edward II.; Littleton and Sir John Fortescue, who wrote in the time of Henry VI.; and Fitz-herbert and Coke, who wrote in that of Henry VIII.—that not one of these, in treating of the King's powers and rights, makes any reference to a prerogative of this nature. Indeed, so far the reverse, the last-named author, when he discourses of the matters of Parliament, uses expressions to the very contrary effect. Thus, "Matters of Parliament," he says, "are touching the King and State of the kingdom of England, and the defence of the kingdom, &c., and remarks that "these words of the writ, 'the State and Defence of the Kingdom,' are large words, and include the rest." He observes, "they are called *ad faciendum et consentiendum super negotiis antedictis*."

To come now to the precedents cited from the Chronicles and Parliamentary Rolls, we find under William Rufus and Henry I. respectively, that a treaty of peace was "sworn to by twelve Barons of each nation." In the reign of Stephen a peace was "confirmed and sworn to by the Prelates, Barons, and all the great men of the realm." Under Henry II., when some differences between the Kings of Castile and Navarre were referred to our King for arbitration, we are told that "the King did not think fit to make any determination upon this point but in his High Court of Parliament, where he ordered the Ambassadors to deliver what they had to say. Their mutual demands one upon another were produced; after which the Earls and Barons of the Royal Court of England adjudged plenary satisfaction to be made," &c.

Passing over many intermediate cases we come to a very remarkable passage in the reign of Edward III., which is thus told:—"The Chancellor, by the King's command, consulted the Parliament upon the present state of his affairs, whether he should join issue with the King of France in referring the differences between them, or whether he should treat amicably with him, or proceed to open war. The Prelates, Earls, Barons, and other great men, answered and advised that either a reference or a war were both full of dangers, and are rather of opinion for a treaty. But, secrecy being required in it, the Chancellor from the King desired them to say whom they would have, and what persons should go and make the treaty? To which they replied that the King should name whom he thought fittest; upon which the King in Parliament named the Commissioners for this treaty; and part of their powers and business was then prescribed to them."—Rot. Parl., 5 Edward III., No. 3.

Later in the same reign we read of a negotiation for a peace with France, thus referred by the Crown to the consideration of Parliament:—"That there was a treaty depending, and in good forwardness, which the King would not conclude without the assent of the Lords and Commons; they were therefore asked by the King's command whether they would assent to a peace, if by treaty it could be had? The Commons answered that what issue in this matter pleased the King and the Lords would satisfy them. But this was not thought a sufficient consent. The Lord Chamberlain therefore demanded of the Commons, 'Do you then assent to a

treaty of perpetual peace?' Whereupon they unanimously replied, 'Yes, yes.'"—Rot. Parl., 28 Edward III., No. 58.

Parliament did not always defer, as a matter of course, to the superior wisdom of the Crown in these matters. In the 36th of Edward III., we read of an offer of peace made by David Bruce, King of Scotland, which was referred to the opinion of the Lords, and they "unanimously answered they could not assent to it, as prejudicial to the King's crown."

Under Richard II. we find a case which fairly illustrates the reason why Parliament should be consulted not only in making war but in making peace also. A peace was in negotiation with France, but the Chancellor, Michael de la Pole, told both Houses of Parliament, "That the King, out of tender love to his people, and consideration of the great expenses they had been at during the war, would not finally conclude the peace without their assent and knowledge, though he might do it, because (as 'twas conceived) France was the King's own proper inheritance, and not belonging to the Crown of England;" and then he declared "that the King desired, and earnestly charged them, carefully to examine and consider the said articles in relation to this treaty; to advise what was best to be done for his and the kingdom's honour and advantage." The Commons, in consideration that the case was not one concerning the Crown of England (as already stated by the Chancellor), were for leaving the whole affair to the King, to do "as his noble Grace should himself best like;" but this did not satisfy the King and the King's advisers, and "the Commons were again charged by the King's commands to speak their minds upon these points, thus: 'Do you either desire peace or war with your enemies of France?'" Thus appealed to, the Commons replied, "they earnestly desired a good and honourable peace," but having regard to the dignity of their Sovereign, they remarked upon one of the articles of the proposed treaty, by which the King was to have the province of Guienne, to be held of the Crown of France by service and homage; "but they hoped their liege lord would not easily agree to hold of the French by the like service the town of Calais, and other lands which had been conquered from the French by the sword. Nor would the Commons that this should be done if there was any other way of coming off." To this it was answered by the Crown's advisers, "that for anything that yet appeared, there was no having a peace without holding those lands in the said manner;" and the Commons were again called upon to advise the Crown further, and were informed how that the Lords had given the opinion "that all mischiefs and appearing dangers considered, if they were in the King's condition they would rather agree to this peace than have a war: and hereupon the Commons (with protestation that they may not be hereafter charged as having advised in this matter, and that they shall not bear the blame of having counselled one way or other) agree in this answer with the Prelates and Lords in every point."

In the reign of Henry V. we read of an alliance with Sigismund, King of the Romans, which "was confirmed, approved of, and ratified by Parliament" in these words:—"Be it known, &c.: Our most Sovereign Lord aforesaid, willing that the said alliance may be perpetual, and the matters contained in the said letters patent having been duly and solemnly debated in this Parliament—with all the Archbishops, Bishops, Dukes, Earls, Barons, and all others spiritual and temporal, as also the Commons of the realm, in the said Parliament assembled, by their common assent and consent in the said Parliament, and by authority of the same, they did ratify, approve, and confirm," &c.

In the 9th of Henry VI. was passed an Act of Parliament authorising negotiations for peace with France, Spain, and Scotland, in these words—"that it is ordained and advised by the Lords spiritual and temporal and Commons being in this present Parliament, that my Lords of Bedford and Gloucester, and my Lord Cardinal, and others of the King's blood and of his Council, may treat of peace on the King's behalf with the said parties, or any other."

In the fourth year of the reign of Henry VIII. we read that "the Session was opened by William Wareham, Archbishop of Canterbury, who showed how the French King would do no justice in restoring to the King his right inheritance; wherefore, from lack of justice, peace of necessity must be turned into war. In this Parliament was granted two-fifths of the temporality, and of the clergy two-tenths. After that, it was concluded by the whole body of the realm, in the High Court of Parliament assembled, that war should be made on the French King and his dominions, and an Act was thereupon made."

Here we close for the present. We have quoted enough to show that down to the days of Henry VIII. the right and duty of Parliament to direct the councils of the State in matters of peace and war were undisputed and uninterruptedly exercised. It was in the reign of Elizabeth that this wholesome practice began to fall into desuetude. "This I remark," says the author of the "Essays," "placed her hopes entirely in the affections of her people, whom she ever courted, not by the false arts of dark policy, but by a steady course of good government; and, having such an absolute dominion over their hearts, she did what she pleased with both Houses of Parliament. It being notorious that she gave at no interest distinct from that of the commonwealth, she was suffered to pursue the measures tending to the public good in her own method." Under James I. this question led to many disputes between the Crown and Parliament without being definitively settled. It was under Cromwell, however, that the authority of Parliament, in this as in all other matters was completely suppressed. Under the Restoration the Parliamentary jurisdiction in the matter of peace and war was not re-established, although strenuous efforts were made to that end by Parliament. The matter seems to have been lost sight of in the all-engrossing crisis of the Revolution; and by degrees the Crown assumed that power of sole discretion of external policy, which Courtly writers have even presumed to dignify with the title of Prerogative.

A NOBLE EXAMPLE.—The members of the Royal Thames Yacht Club have subscribed upwards of 100*l.* towards the purchase of a life-boat on Mr. James Peake's plan, to be presented by them to the Royal National Life-boat Institution. Thus, through the benevolence of one individual member of the club—who promised to contribute one-half of the above amount on condition that the other members would raise amongst themselves the other half—a life-boat will be provided, which may be the happy means of rescuing from a watery grave many of those who "go down into the sea in ships." We strongly recommend the noble conduct of the Royal Thames Yacht Club to other maritime bodies.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCT. 7, 1856.

Month and Day.		Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M. 151 feet above sea level.	Thermometer.		Mean Tempe- rature of the Day.	Rain in Inches. Read at 10 P.M.	Mean Tem- perature of the Day.		Amount of Ozone. (0-10)		Mean amount of Clouds. (0-10)
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.	Wet Bulb.			Evapora- tion.	In the Night.	In the Day.		
Oct.	1	29.673	60.6	38.6	50.6	0.003	49.9	47.7	0.5	0.5	8.2
"	2	29.677	60.3	50.8	55.3	0.002	53.8	53.7	1.0	2.0	9.8
"	3	29.616	62.6	50.6	57.2	0.162	59.4	54.5	3.5	0.5	9.5
"	4	29.403	60.8	51.2	55.7	0.796	55.8	51.3	1.0	2.0	9.8
"	5	29.681	65.8	59.0	56.2	0.004	53.1	53.8	0.5	4.0	7.5
"	6	29.893	57.6	46.6	51.6	0.017	50.2	49.6	1.0	5.0	7.5
"	7	29.893	52.0	46.5	49.6	0.076	49.7	48.3	7.5	7.0	10.0
Mean		29.676	60.0	47.9	53.9	0.061	52.7	50.7	1.5	2.5	8.3

The Range of Temperature during the Week was 27.2 deg. The weather very rainy. The Direction of the Wind was S., S.S.E., and S.W. from the 1st to the 5th, and steady N.E. on the 6th and 7th. 5th, thunderstorm about seven p.m.; much distant lightning in N.

THE COURT AT BALMORAL.—On Tuesday, the Queen, the Princess Royal, and Prince Alfred, attended by the Duchess of Wellington, Miss Seymour, and Sir George Grey, drove to the Lion of D.E. On their return the Royal party took tea with Lady Agnes Dalrymple at the Cottage, and then, accompanied by her Ladyship, proceeded to the fine Falls of Corriemulzie. Her Majesty had never been at them before, and certainly a better occasion could hardly ever have been chosen for seeing them in perfection. In crossing the high-road which runs between the Cottage grounds and the site of the Falls, the party met a large drove of cattle coming from the Castleton market. The driver, a fine-looking man from Atholl, addressing Lady Agnes, said, "Pleasse, can you tell me if the Queen is forward to-night?" Her Majesty overheard the question, turned round and bestowed on the stalwart Highlander a most gracious bow and smile. Sir George Grey then fell back, and told him that that was the Queen.—*Aberdeen Herald*.

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN DEVONSHIRE.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, whilst in Devon, honoured Sir Lydston Newman with a visit at Mamhead. Mamhead is a beautiful place, erected by the first Sir Robert Newman, on the heights of Haldon. It is one of the finest spots in Devon, and the resources of art have been lavished to make the house and grounds worthy of the site. The parish church is situated in the park. His Royal Highness visited it to see the monument erected to the memory of the late gallant Sir R. L. Newman, who fell at Inkerman. The young Prince excited admiration by the quick intelligence he displayed, while his bearing, though not wanting in the dignity due to his station, placed every one who came in contact with his Royal Highness perfectly at ease.

THE REPRESENTATION OF GLASGOW.—Proceeding upon the supposition that, somehow or another, Mr. John Macgregor will be prevailed upon to resign his position of M.P. for the city, the good people of Glasgow are speculating upon the best man to succeed him. A preliminary meeting is to take place in the course of a few days, to consider when a public meeting should be held to talk over the whole matter. Several gentlemen, exceedingly well qualified to represent the city, are spoken of. Amongst them we observe the names of Mr. Henry Dunlop of Craigton, Mr. Walter Buchanan, the Lord Provost, Sir James Campbell, Mr. Tennant, and Mr. James Mackenzie of Glentworth. The qualifications of Mr. Dunlop, the Lord Provost (Mr. Orr), and Mr. Buchanan, are beyond all dispute. They are intimately acquainted with the local wants of Glasgow, and can be depended on as men of sound political principle and unswerving integrity.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

REPRESENTATION OF YARMOUTH.—Mr. Torrens McCullagh, formerly M.P. for Dundalk, and Mr. E. W. Watkin, of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, who intend to seek the representation of Yarmouth at the next election, addressed a meeting in that town on Monday evening. Mr. McCullagh strongly urged the necessity of reform in the House of Commons, which, as the centre of power, had not moved with the earnestness demanded by the condition of public affairs. Military and Administrative Reform were also dwelt upon, and the late peace denounced as altogether insufficient to compensate this country for the sacrifices it had made. The tone lately assumed by Russia showed "the exuberance of her contempt for the manner in which she was let off." Russia, considering that an alliance between a free people and a despotic Power could not be durable, was quietly preparing to sever France and England, and then carry out her policy with impunity. The House of Commons, by its apathy, was especially to be blamed for all that had taken place, and the only security for the future would be "a popularly-elected and popularly-responsible House." Mr. Watkin agreed most cordially in the sentiments expressed by Mr. McCullagh in favour of Military and Administrative Reform. Referring to Mr. Cobden's budget—whereby it was proposed to save 10,000,000*l.* of the national expenditure, by cutting down certain expenses for military and naval purposes, and in point of fact, by diminishing what may be called the decisive powers of the kingdom—Mr. Watkin said it was not necessary for him to say that he differed from Mr. Cobden. He believed we were under a great debt of gratitude to him, but it did not follow that because we honoured a man, and were grateful to him for his past political course, we should agree with him upon everything. He did think that the right economy with regard to the national resources was not at all to diminish the real efficiency of the decisive powers of the country, but to endeavour to make them more efficient at a less expense. At the conclusion of Mr. Watkin's address, the following resolution was passed by acclamation:—"That this meeting has heard with much pleasure and satisfaction the political opinions expressed by Mr. Watkin, Esq., and believing that the same are in unison with those entertained by the great body of the Liberal electors, it is unanimous in opinion that he is a fit and proper person to represent this borough in Parliament, and that he be put in nomination, in conjunction with W. E. McCullagh, Esq., at the next general election."

NEWS AGENTS AND RAILWAY COMPANIES.—A POINT OF IMPORTANCE.—At Birmingham County Court last week, Mr. Justice, Esq., the Judge, gave a decision of much interest to news-vendors. Mr. Sparks, a news-agent in that town, brought an action against the London and North-Western Railway Company, to recover 2*l.* 15*s.* as damages sustained from the non-delivery, at the proper time, of two parcels of periodicals, sent from London by the defendants' line. Instead of reaching Birmingham by half-past four, they did not arrive till seven, and by this delay the plaintiff lost the sale of the serials. It was proved that they were delivered at Euston-square twenty-three minutes before twelve o'clock; but, instead of being sent by a train leaving London at that hour, they were not dispatched until two. The chief excuse of the railway company was that there were so many newspapers on a Monday as to make it impossible for them to forward the whole. The Judge did not think this a sufficient excuse, inasmuch as the same thing occurred every Monday, and ought to be provided for by the company; and as the parcels were proved to have arrived at the railway in reasonable time, he must give the plaintiff a verdict for the full amount claimed.

THE TIPPERARY BANK.—The present position of the Tipperary Bank affairs, as elicited at the recent meeting of creditors in Tipperary, is the subject of some practical remarks in the commercial review of the *Freeman*. "There is nothing (says the *Freeman*) to prevent a final winding-up within six months if both parties act up to the spirit of the Tipperary meeting, while we may instance as a specimen of the law's delays, a warning to the litigators, that in the case of Lord French and Co., well-known bankers, who failed on the 6th of February, 1855, dividend were struck on the 26th of Oct., 1855, nearly forty-one years afterwards."

CHARGE OF STEALING A PLUM.—At Hailsham, Sussex, the Rev. Sir John Culme Seymour, Bart., and J. H. C. Seymour, Esq., his son, were charged last week, the former with stealing one plum, valued at 1*d.*, and the latter with stealing two plums, valued at 2*d.*, and one peach, valued at 4*d.*, the property of Henry Winchester. Winchester occupies a garden attached to Hurlstoneaux Castle, and visitors are in the habit of going to the garden to pick fruit. The Rev. Sir John and his son, who were walking in the garden, picked the fruit, and were charged with stealing it. The defendants assured him that they came to purchase, and not the slightest intention of robbing him; but nothing was said to him, and he brought this charge against the defendants. He said the bench quite absolved the defendants from any intention of stealing the fruit, but there was a degree of impropriety in their conduct in not waiting until the gardener appeared. He should therefore convict them in the penalty of 1*s.* and costs for improperly taking the fruit.

FEARFUL STORM.—On Monday evening, shortly before eleven o'clock, a terrific storm passed over Bristol. At about that hour a vivid flash of lightning, succeeded by a loud peal of thunder, was immediately followed by a perit deluge of rain, which continued to descend with unabated force for some time. The rain-gauge kept at the Bristol Polytechnical Institution registered a fall of not less than 1.13 inch during the night. At some of the lower parts of the city the inhabitants were flooded out in an incredibly brief space of time, and in many instances they escaped from their tenements with no small hazard to their lives.



TAITTSALL'S. FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH BY PAGE 27.



THE PATENT ELEVATOR AND OBSERVATORY.

DURING the siege of Sebastopol a good deal of natural anxiety was felt to obtain a view of the interior of the enemy's works, and several plans to this effect were suggested, none of which were feasible. Two or three months before the town yielded to the Allied armies, Mr. Stocqueler, the military writer, conceived that a machine constructed upon the principle of the "lazy tongs," with a vertical action, might be made available for carrying a person up a considerable height, and at a safe distance, so as to afford a perfect view of the interior of the forti-

cations. He communicated his idea to Mr. W. B. Saunders; and the father of that gentleman, Mr. W. Saunders, formerly of Jersey, a remarkably ingenious person, hit upon the expedient of applying the "lazy tongs" principle in the manner shown in the accompanying engraving. It will be observed that a series of tiers of expanding laths, each lath six feet in length, worked by a wheel acting on a spindle, rises from the three sides of a triangular base, carrying up an individual, secured by a circular railing, to a height of fifty or even one hundred feet, according to the dimensions of the base. A model of the machine having been shown to Lord Panmure, that nobleman, after taking the opinion of scientific officers, encouraged Messrs. Stocqueler and Saunders to construct a machine, properly reserving his undertaking to become a purchaser on behalf of the Government until the promise of the model should be realised in the elevator itself. No time was lost by the projectors in commencing the construction of the machine. Several difficulties and obstacles presented themselves, but they were all surmounted by the energy of Mr. Saunders and the skill of Mr. Burley, the engineer—not, however, until Sebastopol had fallen. In the mean while, Messrs. Stocqueler and Saunders patented their invention in England, France, Belgium, &c.; and it is now offered to the public for the various purposes to which it is applicable. Its utility in superseding scaffolding to a great degree is obvious. For cleaning the inside of the roofs of churches, chapels, halls, and museums; painting and repairing the fronts of houses; assisting firemen to direct the jets of water upon burning houses; facilitating reconnaissances and observations; rendering ladders and climbing unnecessary in gathering fruit, lopping the branches of tall trees, and watering conservatories; painting and caulking the sides of ships—in fact, for all purposes in which a certain elevation, without the expense and incumbrance of scaffolding, is requisite, this invention will prove of much value. We understand that it is viewed with much favour on the other side of the Channel.

PATRICK BYRNE, THE IRISH HARPER.

THE ancient national harp music of Ireland is still kept alive by a few practitioners of a very humble kind, who wander about in their own country, chiefly playing to parties assembled in taverns; but the only representative of the gentlemen harpers—the O'Keans, Hampsons, and O'Neals of the last century—is Patrick Byrne, of Farney, in the county of Monaghan, whose portrait is here presented. He is a respectable middle-aged man; well known in most parts of the United Kingdom, being accustomed to give concerts in the principal towns, and to be entertained at the houses of many of the nobility and gentry throughout the country. A few years ago he had the honour of performing before the Queen, at Balmoral. Byrne studied his art in the school founded and temporarily maintained at Belfast, with money furnished chiefly by the Marquis of Hastings, and for a third of a century he has realised the profession of the wandering minstrel, always maintaining an irreproachable character. He has a large share of intelligence and humour, and this, with his musical skill, and the correctness of his conduct and general good manners, has rendered him very much a favourite everywhere. The style in which he plays the old tunes of Ireland, as "Coolun," "Aileen Aroon," and "Gramachree," as well as those charming melodies of his countryman Carolan—the "Fox's Sleep," "The Receipt," &c., and the various family *planities*, is such as to enchain large parties around his instrument for hours at a time.

The accompanying sketch represents Byrne in characteristic relation to his instrument. The Irish harp is considerably smaller than the Italian; it has brass strings, and is brought, in playing, against the left shoulder, the tenor part being played with the left hand.



PATRICK BYRNE, THE IRISH HARPER.

Fire: "but strange," says Pepys, "it is to see Clothworkers' Hall on fire these three days and nights in one body of flame, it having the cellars full of oyle." The *Gazette* of Sept. 8, 1666, announces the Fire to have stopped near Clothworkers' Hall. The list of the Company's charities remarkable for its number of anniversary sermons and lectures, and for its bequests for blind persons. The Company's Almshouses (now at Islington) were originally in Whitefriars, on part of a garden belonging to Margaret Countess of Kent, held by her of the prior of that friary.

CLOTHWORKERS' HALL.

THE Hall of the Clothworkers' Company, on the east side of Mincing-lane, has just been taken down; and upon the site will be immediately erected a new Hall, from the design of Mr. Samuel Angell, architect to the Company. Clothworkers' Hall had little architectural merit to recommend it to notice; but its association with the name of Samuel Pepys invested it with considerable interest. The incorporation of the Company dates nearly four hundred years since. The original Hall was mainly destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 of which Pepys has an entry in his Diary.



TOMB OF THE REV. LORD AUGUSTUS FITZCLARENCE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

The Hall was on fire three days and nights in one body of flame; and the wall of the wine cellar of the Hall just removed bore evidence of the fire, being covered with a coat of glazing occasioned by the heated matter having run over it.

The Hall was rebuilt, after the fire, of red brick, the entrance being flanked with fluted columns. The interior was richly wainscoted, and in niches were placed carved life-sized figures of James I. and Charles I. A curious sword-rail was placed in the Hall during the Mayoralty of Sir Francis Chaplin, in 1677, and is a fine specimen of the ironwork of the period. The windows were painted with the arms of benefactors, including Samuel Pepys, Master of the Company in 1677, who presented them with a silver Election-Cup and Cover, embossed and partly gilt; the foot inscribed, "Samuel Pepys, Admiralti Anglie Secretes et Societ. Pannil: Lond. Mr. (Master) An. 1677."

This beautiful Cup was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 418. We quote from the "Curiosities of London" the following *précis* of the history of the Company and the Hall:—

The Clothworkers were originally incorporated by Edward IV. in 1482 as Shermen (Shearers), and were united with the Fullers in 1528 by Henry VIII., the conjoined fraternity being then named Clothworkers. James I. incorporated himself into the Clothworkers, "as men dealing with the principal and noblest staples of all these islands, woollen cloths." Among their pageants is that of Sir John Robinson, Lord Mayor 1662-63, reviving the true English and manlike exercise of wrestling, archery, sword, and dagger; when at his mayoralty feast in Clothworkers' Hall, he entertained the King, Queen, and Queen-mother, the Duke and Duchess of York. The Hall was in part destroyed by the Great

Howes relates that James I., being in the open Hall, inquired who was Master of the Company; and the Lord Mayor answering "Syr William Stone," to him the King said, "Wilt thou make me



CLOTHWORKERS' HALL.



EXTERIOR OF CLOTHWORKERS' HALL, MINCING LANE.

free of the Clothworkers?" "Yea," quoth the Master, "and think myself a happy man that I live to see this day." Then the King said, "Stone, give me thy hand; and now I am a Clothworker."

The painted glass, the effigies of the two Kings, the pictures, the sword-rail, with other relics, are to be preserved, and replaced in the new Hall, which, from the model in the possession of the Company, will be a very handsome edifice.

The late Sir Robert Peel and Viscount Hardinge were both members of this opulent Company; and Aldermen Humphrey and Sir John Musgrove are among the present members.

TOMB OF THE REV. LORD AUGUSTUS FITZCLARENCE.

THE late Lord Augustus Fitzclarence was, as is well known, the third child of his late Majesty William IV., and upon the elevation of his elder brother to the Earldom of Munster, was advanced, in 1831, with his brothers and sisters, to the rank and precedence of the children of a Marquis. He was born March 1, 1805, and, having taken holy orders, was, in 1829, presented by his Majesty to the valuable living of Mapledurham, which is delightfully situated on the Oxfordshire bank of the Thames, three miles and a half from Reading. Here Lord Augustus spent nearly the whole of his time, greatly improving the residence, and paying great attention to the condition and wants of his poorer parishioners. By them his unostentatious, but munificent charity will be long remembered; and many instances might be quoted where his liberal hand conferred benefits, the source of which the recipients could not easily discover. By his marriage with a lady of a Scottish family of rank, the deceased nobleman left several sons and daughters of tender age; and the loss is one which it may be supposed is most deeply felt by a family to which he was most devotedly attached, and a large circle of relatives and sympathising friends.

The living of Mapledurham was previously held by the present Archbishop of Canterbury, who was succeeded by Lord Augustus Fitzclarence, to whose memory the handsome memorial engraved on the preceding page has been erected. Upon the upper edge of the tomb, in embossed letters cut upon it, is the following inscription:—

Sacred to the Memory of AUGUSTUS FITZCLARENCE,
Vicar of Mapledurham. Died 14th June, 1851.

"And now Lord what is my hope? truly my hope is even in thee."

The tomb and the iron railing inclosing the same have been designed by Mr. Arthur Billing, of London; the whole being executed by Messrs. Wheeler, of Reading, Berks.

THE SCHOOL OF NEWTON.

THE Grammar School of Grantham—the scene of Newton's boyhood—must ever be interesting to all Englishmen. The building has been restored, as the term is, and now presents much the same appearance as when Newton learned grammar there, tasted rod, and kicked the boy who beat him in his accident. But not only has the school acquired a more desirable appearance, but the fashion of its education has been changed to something more sensible, more practical, more useful, more in our own way—for we have ever been advocates of common sense and rational views in education. Mathematics—hear it, thou shade of Newton!—have a prominent place in its scheme. English history and English grammar and geography are no longer shadows of a shade, but substantial realities, in its instructions. French and German are taught by French and German professors, graduates of French and German universities. Drawing, and even art-drawing, has its classes. The time chosen by our Artist for his view was when the prizes were being distributed after a public examination by two highly-distinguished members of the University of Oxford, which had elicited a very flattering report of the condition and prospects of the school. We gladly re-echo the sentiments of those who witnessed this scene.—*Floreat domus Newtonia!*

NATIONAL SPORTS.

BEYOND the "neck" defeat of Adamas by Saunterer, who gave him 7 lb. at Chester—a performance which makes Ignoramus a very good horse—there has been no racing of interest during the week, and not much doing on the Cesarewitch. The sport for the ensuing week is confined to three localities, one in each division of the United Kingdom. Newmarket Second October extends from Monday to Friday; the Curragh (where Ackworth, half brother to Minicope, is engaged in the Marble Hill Stakes) has a four days' meeting, beginning on Tuesday; while Perth furnishes a modest two days on Thursday and Friday. The Newmarket list is not a great one. There are four matches (one of them for 1000l., h. ft.) already set down for Monday; and Theodora has nothing to meet over the D.M. in the Fifty Sovs. Stakes. On Tuesday Victoria appears to have an equally easy task set her in the Royal Stakes, and Isaac Day would seem to have a good chance for the Cesarewitch, though Middleton, 5 st. 6 lb., will require a great deal of getting rid of; and Fulbeck has displaced Coltsfold from the premiership at "the Corner." The Clearwell Stakes on the same afternoon has the promise of a fine field—to wit, Tasmania (6 lb. ex.), or Bel Esperanza, Beechnut, Gabelrunzie, who is a dark son of Mendicant and Don John, Pomona (3 lb. ex.), Lambourn (6 lb. ex.), Sydney, &c. John Day's two-year-olds have no good report at present; while Sydney has had some strong Derby fanciers, whose investments will be sadly imperilled all the winter if he cannot carry the Rothschild "blue and yellow cap" to the fore in this struggle. Tasmania and Lambourn will meet on the same terms as they did at Doncaster, where the mare beat him a head. We should not, however, be surprised, provided Mr. Edwin Parr indulges him with a jockey instead of a stable lad, to see the tables turned here. He has been defeated in seven out of his eleven races this season; and in six of them, amounting to £2700, he has finished a good second. In this respect he is as bad as Yellow Jack, who has run six times second for stakes which reach £11,790! The owners of these unlucky chestnuts may well bear in mind the old copy-head—"Patience is a virtue."

The Bedford Stakes, on Wednesday, has some very bad ones on its list; and the thousand guinea match between the Duke of Bedford and Lord Glasgow, on Thursday, is pretty certain to follow suit, with the one on Monday; and Bird in the Hand (Colonist, is thought to be of the Malton hope) Beechnut, Gabelrunzie, Drumour (6 lb. ex.), and Sydney, are in the Prendergast on Friday.

The admirers of Melissa are very cock-a-hoop, because Fandango declined the tourney over the Round Course, last Thursday. We fear that the two are not likely to meet before the Ascot Cup Day, when the horse will have to give her 12 lb., which we have no doubt he will do successfully. A match, this autumn, over the Cesarewitch course, for a thousand a side, the mare with 7 st. 7 lb., and the horse 9 st., would have been the proper mode of "settling the little difficulty," as we may never have the pair in such form again. The T.M.M. one between Priam and Lucetta, a quarter of a century ago, could not create more interest, but the pull would be against Fandango, as Job Marson would be obliged to make the running with him throughout. Such an animal as Fandango has rarely been seen, as far as useful staying shape is concerned, as he is both low and thick, and famously ribbed up. His sire, Barnum, has been hired for two years by the Royal stud, for something above the price we mentioned last week. It will be remembered that his dam, Martha Lynn, and one, if not two of his own sisters, are among the mares there at present, so it would seem they have a strong notion of the blood, albeit the Voltigeurs have not shown much running yet. Volta, by Voltigeur—though there was not so very much of her—struck us as one of the sweetest yearlings we saw at Doncaster this year. Mr. Nichol gave 400 guineas for her on the morning of the St. Leger victory of Warlock—whose picture, by-the-by, is not to be published. Boiardo for sale, at £400, and Balrownie (a very nice animal), Bonnie Scotland, Hazel, Sir Tatton Sykes, Ulysses, and Champagne are also in the market. To these we may add Rifleman and Black Doctor; and certainly we know no finer nucleus for a stud than these two; the one as a racehorse sire, and the other as a sire for hunters and riding horses. Fandango's running makes us feel what a rare racehorse Rifleman was if he had kept sound, as he was proved to be about fully 3 lb. better than Lord Zetland's horse at a mile or a mile and three quarters. The Newmarket Stud Farm project does not seem to advance, in spite of its grandiloquent prospectus; while the Rawcliffe Farm have raised the Dutchman's fee to 50 sovs., being 20 sovs. more than West Australian's and Stockwell's.

The pheasants as a whole, are said to be, like the partridges, not very fine this season, and the great October shot, according to the penny-a-liners, has been forty-seven starlings at two barrels near Cowage! Coursing has begun well at Biggar, where ten young Japhets were left standing out of the eighty-eight at the end of the first ties for the St. Leger. The meetings for next week are the Border (Stokburghshire) on Tuesday and Wednesday; South Lancashire (Stockport) on Wednesday and Thursday, and High Leven on Thursday and Friday. George Parr, of Ratcliffe-on-Trent, has been elected secretary of the All England Eleven, in the place of his deceased countryman Clarke; and those who still wish to see how Robert Coombes can scull will find him looking remarkably well after his newspaper disease (which, however, brought many a kind friend to his aid), if they only bend their steps to the ferry between Nicholson's Wharf and Battle Bridge.

CHESTER AUTUMN MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Shorts Handicap.—Bourgeois, 1. Princess of Orange, 2. Alma Stakes.—Saunterer, 1. Adamas, 2. Tradesmen's Welter Cup.—Prince of Orange, 1. Gaylad, 2. Innkeepers' Plate.—Miss Harkaway, 1. Bourgeois, 2. Mostyn Stakes.—Underhand, 1. Red, White, and Blue, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Grand Stand Stakes.—Diphthong colt, 1. Evelyn, 2. Plate of 50 Sovs.—Little Cob, 1. Janet Pride, 2. Wynnstay Handicap.—Diphthong colt, 1. Miss Harkaway, 2. Selling Stakes.—Jane walked over. Chester Handicap Stakes.—Gamekeeper, 1. Saraband, 2.

WREXHAM RACES.—THURSDAY.

Mas Power Stakes.—Coal Black Rose, 1. Miss Birch, 2. Gold Cup.—Surgeon-General, 1. Mary, 2. Bryn y pys Handicap.—Janet Pride, 1. Blossom, 2.

BEDFORD RACES.—THURSDAY.

Preparation Stakes.—Glenelc, 1. Weathercock, 2. Two-year-old Stakes.—Tournament, 1. Gemma di Vergy, 2.

PREVENTION OF BURGLARY AND FIRE.—On Tuesday evening a party of gentlemen assembled at No. 145, Regent-street, to hear Dr. Bachhoffner explain an ingenious contrivance invented by a Mr. Burgess, for the prevention of burglary and fire. The expedient is of the simplest but of the most efficient character. It consists of a spring concealed in every door, window, shutter, or desk to which it may be thought proper to apply it; and it is so arranged, that when any attempt at burglarious entry, or even at tampering with a lock is made, an electric circuit is completed which causes an alarm-bell to ring in the bed-room of the master of the house. In the daytime the circuit can be shut off by turning a handle; but, so long as the watch is set, neither ingress nor egress is possible without the knowledge and permission of Paterfamilias. The denizens of Notting-hill may, therefore, for the future, rest in peace without invoking the aid either of revolvers or man-traps; and, provided always that the public will avail themselves of Mr. Burgess's clever invention, the burglary interest may well direct its attention to some more honest and profitable industry. After listening to Dr. Bachhoffner's explanations the company dined together, and cordially drank success to the enterprise of the patentees, Messrs. Symons and Burgess.

THE HOLSTEIN AFFAIR.—A letter from Berlin in the *Cologne Gazette*, says:—"The Cabinet of Vienna has given orders to its representatives at the German Courts to acquaint those Governments that the question of the Holstein domains will be brought before the German Diet, and to invite them to concert together, in order to come to a unanimous resolution."

THE NEW AMERICAN CLIPPER-SHIP, "CHERUBIN"—under the command of Captain Nelson Smith, lately arrived from New York—is now discharging her cargo in the East India Dock, and is admitted to be the finest American ship that has yet entered our port: she was built at Baltimore, for her present owners, at a cost of 120,000 dollars; is a beautiful model, 1550 tons register measurement, and about 2600 tons burden; her dimensions are—length, 220 feet; breadth, 41 feet; depth of hold, 25 feet. Her cabins are fitted up with rosewood, maple, satin, and other choice woods, in a very superior style. In consequence of the depressed state of the East India trade, for which this ship is most suited, her agents, Messrs. Geo. Croshaw and Co., have chartered her to load guano at the Chincha Islands, on account of the Peruvian Government.

SWORD OF HONOUR.—A superbly gold-mounted sword, manufactured by Hancock, of Bruton-street, has just been presented by the British Government to Mahmoud Pacha, in testimony of their sense of the great pains taken by him in superintending the arrangements for the passage of two British cavalry regiments through Egypt, on their way from India to the Crimea.

THE CHANCELLORVILLE GOLD MINING COMPANY have received advice, from their agent at New York, of the shipment, on the 24th ult., of another consignment, direct to their works at Frodsham-bridge, of gold ore from their mines in Virginia. The works themselves are in a forward state, and the machinery necessary for crushing the ore and extracting the gold and silver, is rapidly approaching completion.

PRESENTATION TO A CLERGYMAN.—On Monday week the committees of the Hanley National Schools presented to the Rev. Charles Walters, on his vacating the Curacy of St. John's, Hanley, a handsomely-bound copy of "Scott's Commentary," in six quarto volumes; an elaborately-etched silver pocket Communion service; and a purse containing ten guineas.

SMUGGLING IN NEW BRUNSWICK.—Smuggling appears to be practised to a great extent. The *Fredericton Reporter* says:—"The amount of smuggling throughout the whole province, but more especially in Fredericton and St. John, under the present license law, is said to be fearful. One man in Fredericton is reported to have made 4000 of the trade, since the repeal of the prohibitory law; and it is now notorious that on the very road which passes within a few paces of the front door of Government House, nearly all the liquor now consumed here is passed to its law-evading owners."

THE PRESS IN VIRGINIA.—The grand jury of Shinnston, Virginia, recently found a true bill against the postmaster of that village for circulating and delivering to subscribers copies of the *New York Tribune*, an affidavit having been previously made by a Mr. George Sloem that the journal in question was an Abolition document.—*Baltimore Patriot*.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

THE Bank of England Directors have this week advanced the rates of discount on all bills not having more than sixty days to run to six per cent.; on paper over sixty days, to 7 per cent.; and the Bank of France have determined to refuse all bills having more than sixty days to run, and intimated that their future advances on Government Stock will not exceed forty per cent of the amount sent in. These features in the Money Market have been productive of considerable excitement in the Stock Exchange, and a fall of 1½ per cent has taken place in the value of National Securities. Confidence out of doors, however, has not been shaken; and there has been a most ample supply of money in the general Discount Market; though, as might be expected, the discount houses have raised their rates—short paper being now done at 5½ to 6; and four months' bills at 6½ to 7 per cent. The joint-stock banks have likewise raised the rate of money on deposits from 4 to 5 per cent. As regards the position of our merchants and manufacturers, we may safely state that there is nothing in it calculated to create alarm. For a considerable period they have been doing a large and a most profitable business, both at home and abroad. Had immense quantities of goods been forwarded to inferior markets, and had the home trade been in a depressed state, unfavourable results might be anticipated; but the very reverse is the case, and the above-noticed advance in discounts is not likely to compromise their interests. In France, however, we see a reverse state of things, and, whatever may be the nature of the exertions now making to obtain gold at any price, it is by no means impossible but that the Bank of France will be compelled to suspend specie payments. The enormous powers granted to the Credit Mobilier and other similar institutions, have, in our opinion, brought about a crisis in money affairs in France, which ordinary foresight might have prevented.

Several parcels of gold, valued at 250,000l., have been withdrawn from the Bank of England this week for the Continent; and the shipments of silver to Germany—partly on account of Russian houses—have exceeded 300,000l. The stock of bullion in the Vienna bank has increased 8,700,000l.; hence, it is hoped, that specie payments will be resumed by that institution.

The advance in the bank rate produced a very heavy market for Consols on Monday, and prices fell rapidly.—The Three per Cents opened at 92½ and closed at 91½. For the Account the quotations were 92½ down to 91½. India Bonds were 98. to 138.; and Exchequer Bills, 58. to 138. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 93½. On Tuesday the Three per Cents, for Transfer, were quoted at 90½ to 91½; Ditto, for the Account, 90½ to 91½. Exchequer Bills realised 58. to 98. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 93 to 98½. Numerous fluctuations took place in the quotations on Wednesday—the Three per Cents being done at 91½ up to 91½ for Money, and 91½ to 92½ for the November Account. India Stock was 228½ to 229. India Bonds realised 88. to 118.; and Exchequer Bills, 58. to 108. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 97½ to 99. On Thursday Consols were rather firmer:—For Money they opened at 91½; and closed

at 91½; for Account, the prices were 91½ to 92, closing at 91½. Exchequer Bills were flat, at 48. to 88. prem.; the Bonds marked 98½; India Bonds, 78. prem.

We have had a very dull market for all Foreign Securities, and the fall in prices has, in some instances, been rather severe.—Austrian Five per Cents, 88; Brazilian Five per Cents have marked 100½; Mexican Three per Cents, 22½; Peruvian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 76½; Ditto, Three per Cents, 55½; Russian Five per Cents, 106; Russian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 96½ to 97; Sardinian Five per Cents, 90; Spanish Three per Cents, 41½; Ditto, New Deferred, 24; Turkish Six per Cents, 97½ down to 95½; Ditto, Four per Cents, 99½ to 100; Dutch Two-and-a-half per Cents, 64½; Dutch Four per Cents, 93½ ex div.; Chilean Three per Cents, 71; Ditto, Six per Cents, 104; Portuguese Three per Cents, 43½; Grenada Two-and-a-quarter per Cents, 23; Swedish Four per Cents, 86.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been rather steady in price; but the business transacted in them has been limited compared with many previous weeks:—Bank of London, 63½; City, 68; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 16; London Joint-Stock, 30½; London and Westminster, 46½; Ottoman Bank, 7½.

There has been a very dull market for all Miscellaneous Securities, and prices have had a downward tendency:—Canada Company's Shares have marked 112 to 115; London General Omnibus Company, 3½; Mexican and South American, 3½; National Discount Company, 5½; New, 1½; New South Wales Government Debentures, 101; Scottish Australian Investment, 1; South Australian Land, 34½; London Dock, 103½; St. Katharine, 87½; Hungerford-bridge, 8; Waterloo New Annuities, 263; Vuuxhall, 203; Ashton and Oldham Canal Shares have marked 145; Leeds and Liverpool, 48½; Loughborough, 550; Oxford, 103; Stafford and Worcester, 425; Stourbridge, 290; Berlin Waterworks, 5½; East London, 119; Kent, 80½; Grand Junction, 77; Ditto, New, 33; Lambeth, 95; and West Middlesex, 100.

We have had a very inactive market for Railway Shares; nevertheless the fall in the quotations has not been extensive. The following are the closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 44; Bristol and Exeter, 93½; Caledonian, 54 ex div.; Chester and Holyhead, 16½; Eastern Counties, 87½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 51½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 31; Great Northern, 91; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 113; Great Western, 61½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 94½; London and Blackwall, 63; London and Brighton, 104; London and North-Western, 101; London and South-Western, 102½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 31½; Midland, 75½; North British, 35½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 79; Ditto, Extension, 18½; Ditto, Leeds, 17½; Ditto, York, 55½; North Staffordshire, 11½; Scottish Central, 103½; Scottish North-Eastern (Aberdeen Stock), 25½; South Devon, 14½; South-Eastern, 68½; South Wales, 79; Stockton and Darlington, 19½.

Lines LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—London, Tilbury, and Southend, 110; Wear Valley, 22½; Wilts and Somerset, 90.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 91½ ex div.; Eastern Counties New Six per Cent, 12½; Great Western, Five per Cent, 97; London and Brighton, No. 4, 112; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 5½; Midland Consolidated, 93; North-Eastern—York, 11 and S. Purchase—93; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 100; Scottish North-Eastern, 118; South-Eastern Four-and-a-half per Cent, 98.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 63; Ceylon, B Shares, 2½; East Indian, A and B, 22; Ditto, Extension, 11½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 11½; Great Indian Peninsula, 20½; Great Leamington, 2½; Great Western of Canada, 22½ ex div.; Ditto, New, 6½ ex div.; Lombardo-Venetian, 10½; Namur and Liege, 8½; Ditto, Six per Cent, 20½; Paris and Lyons, 49½; Sambre and Meuse, 10½.

In Mining Shares so little has been doing that the quotations have ruled almost nominal. On Thursday Cobalt Copper were done at 56.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE, October 6.—The supply of English wheat fresh up to our market to-day was very moderate, and in poor condition. Selected samples sold steadily at the improvement in the quotations of from 1s. to 2s. per quarter, and the value of other kinds was supported. There was a fair average show of foreign wheat, in which a steady retail business was transacted, at fully previous rates. Malting barley was scarce, and in request, at 1s. to 2s. per quarter more money. Grinding and distilling sorts commanded previous rates. In the value of malt no change took place, and the trade continued tolerably firm. There was a good consumptive demand for oats, beans, and peas, the supplies of which were moderate, at full quotations. The flour trade ruled steady, and fine American flour was the turn dealer.

Oct. 8.—There was a moderate business doing in most kinds of produce to-day, and Monday's prices were well supported. English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 60s. to 72s.; ditto, white, 63s. to 74s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, 68s. to 71s.; rye, 41s. to 49s.; grinding barley, 34s. to 38s.; distilling ditto, 41s. to 43s.; malting ditto, 43s. to 50s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 68s. to 74s.; brown ditto, 6s. to 61s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 78s.; Chevalier, 75s. to 77s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 28s. to 29s.; potato ditto, 24s. to 33s.; Tynahall and Cork, black, 23s. to 25s.; ditto, white, 23s. to 28s.; tick beans, 40s. to 41s.; grey peas, 40s. to 45s.; mangel, 12s. to 13s.; white, 42s. to 41s.; bolters, 43s. to 47s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 68s. to 69s.; Suffolk, 69s. to 50s.; stockton and Yorkshire, 43s. to 51s. per 280 lb.; American flour, 32s. to 46s. per barrel.

Seeds.—There is a fair demand for linseed, at full prices. Clover commands high rates. In other seeds very little is doing. Cakes continue steady. English.—Crushing, 61s. to 63s.; Mediterranean, 54s. to 58s.; hempseed, 48s. to 52s. per quarter. Coriander, 22s. to 24s. per cwt. Brown mustard seed, 2½s. to 2½s.; ditto, white, 10s. to 12s.; tares, 6s. to 6s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed, 88s. to 90s. per quarter. Linseed cakes, English, £10 to £10 15s.; ditto, foreign, £10 0s. to £11 7s. 6d.; rape cakes, £5 5s. to 46s. per ton. Canary, 68s. to 74s. per quarter.

Wheat.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 9½d.; of household bread, 7½d. to 9d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 63s. 0½.; barley, 42s. 10d.; oats, 25s. 11d.; rye, 42s. 0d.; beans, 44s. 10d.; peas, 43s. 9d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 67s. 10d.; barley, 43s. 3d.; oats, 26s. 8d.; rye, 43s. 7d.; beans, 45s. 4d.; peas, 41s. 10d.

English Grain Sold last Week.—Wheat, 132,996; barley, 56,394; oats, 12,755; rye, 884; beans, 458; peas, 1794 quarters.

Tea.—Our market is extensively supplied, and all kinds of tea are dull in sale, at barely last week's prices. Common sound oolong is selling at 8½d. to 8½d. per lb.

Sugar.—Nearly all kinds of raw sugar have changed hands steadily, and, in some instances, prices have ruled the turn higher. Barbadoes has sold at 42s. 6d. to 44s.; in some cases, 45s. to 50s. 6d.; Antigua, 48s. to 49s.; Mauritius, 37s. to 38s.; Bengal, 41s. to 48s. 6d.; and Pango, 41s. to 48s. 6d. per cwt. Refined sugars are in moderate request, at from 54s. to 56s. per cwt. for fair to fine grocery.

Coffee.—Our market has been very steady, and prices generally have been well supported. Good ordinary native Ceylon has changed hands at 53s. per cwt.

Rice.—Rather large quantities have found buyers, both for home consumption and export, at full prices. Bengal is selling at 18s. 8d. to 18s. 10d. per cwt.

Provisions.—We have to report a steady demand for nearly all kinds of Irish butter, and prices have an upward tendency. Fine foreign has advanced 2s. per cwt., with a fair inquiry. English qualities are firm, and the best Dorset is worth 118s. per cwt. In bacon very little is doing, at 2s. to 3s. per cwt. less money. In other kinds of provisions only a moderate business is passing.

Tallow.—Our market continues firm, and prices are well supported. P.Y.C., on the spot, 51s. to 51s. 6d.; and for the last three months, 50s. to 50s. 6d. per cwt. Town Tallow, 51s. 9d. net cash.

Oils.—Lined oil moves off slowly, at 38s. 9d. and 37s. 6d. on the spot. Palm is selling at 43s. to 45s. 6d.; coconut, 45s. 6d. to 48s.; pure seal and cod, £49 10s. to £53; Southern, £44 to £48; sperm, £102 to £105. Turpentine is steady. Spirits, 31s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.; rough, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 10d. per cwt.

Spirits.—We have a better demand for brandy, and prices are slightly on the advance. In rum only a moderate business is doing. Proof Leeward, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 3½d. per gallon. Grain spirits are dull.

Coals.—Wylam, 17s. 9d.; Gosforth, 18s.; Heaton, 17s. 9d.; Brackley's, 18s. 9d.; Heaton, 19s. 6d.; South Heaton, 19s. 3d.; Stewart's, 19s. 6d.; Cassop, 18s. 6d.; Hough Hall, 18s. 6d.; Tees, 18s. 6d. per ton.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 12s. to £1 15s.; clover ditto, £1 0s. to £5 15s.; and straw, £1 8s. to £1 12s. per load.

Hops.—The supplies of new hops are extensive, and a steady business is doing in them, at last week's prices.

Wool.—The amount of business passing in all kinds of wool is by no means large; yet the quotations are tolerably firm.

Patenters.—The supplies are moderate, and the demand is steady, at from 8s. to 10s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—The supplies of fat stock have been only moderate for the time of year; yet the trade generally has ruled heavy, at barely last week's decline in value:—Beef, from 2s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 5s. 0d.; veal, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 0d. per lb., to sink the odd.

Neugate and Leadenhall.—The trade, this week, has been very inactive, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 2d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 5s. 4d. per lb., by the carcase.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, OCT. 3.

WAR DEPARTMENT, OCT. 3.

1st Foot: Lieut. A. E. C. Foster to be Lieutenant. 20th: Lieut. C. S. Smelt to be Lieutenant. 21st: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 22nd: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 23rd: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 24th: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 25th: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 26th: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 27th: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 28th: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 29th: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant. 30th: Lieut. H. Brackenbury to be Lieutenant.

DETACHED BATTALIONS.—Majors R. L. Ross, C. de la Motte to be Majors; Capt. G. P. Drought to be Adjutant; Quartermaster J. Thompson to be Quartermaster. UNATTACHED.—Lieut. J. MacQueen to be Captain. STAFF.—Lieut.-Colonel Arthur J. Herbert to be Deputy Quartermaster-General to the Forces serving in the Ionian Islands. BREVE.—Quartermaster J. Taylor to have the honorary rank of Captain.

BANKRUPTS.

S. HASTINGS, Lime-street, wine-merchant.—D. DENMAN, Hartlepool, Durham, licensed victualler.—J. and E. B. SEYMES and E. RAUER, Strand, electro-platers.—J. WOOD, Ashton-under-Lyne, core and general merchant.—J. H. ASHALL, Sharncliffe, Staffordshire, builder.—D. ROTHWELL, Scarle Road, Halifax, Yorkshire, machine-maker.—R. J. MADDERN, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, licensed victualler.—E. PHILLIPS, Pilgrimage, Newport, innkeeper.—T. LAY, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, hop merchant.—J. WHITAKER, Bridge End, near Newchurch, in Rosedale, Lancashire, cotton-manufacturer.—J. SLOMAN, Kingston-on-Hull, merchant, commission-agent, and ship-broker.

TUESDAY, OCT. 7.

BANKRUPTS.

W. TURNER, Forest-hill, Kent, milliner.—W. FEVRE, Peterborough, Northamptonshire, publisher.—J. S. MUIR, Aberdeen Villa, Maida-hill, schoolmaster.—W. SIMMONS, Redruth, Cornwall, draper.—J. DAVIES, Newport, Monmouthshire, carrier.—R. N. CLEMMENS, Liskeard, Cornwall, tailor.—J. SCOTT, Batley, Yorks, iron-merchant.—E. ROWELL, Manchester, mill-broker.—J. and J. L. DONALD, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, watch-makers.—J. CAIR, Walsend, Northumberland, iron-manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

L. STEWART, Rothsay, watchmaker.—AGNES POLLOCK, Glasgow, spirit-dealer.—J. YOUNG, Fisher-row, Edinburgh, carpenter.—J. A. HUGHES, Dundee, Wright.



THE NEW FREE-TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER.

requirements of buildings of this character; it is replete with every minutiae that can add to comfort or administer to necessity.

The large hall is 134 feet long, 78 feet wide, and 52 feet high. It is semicircular at the end opposite to the platform, it has a gallery which has been kept low to the floor, and forms an ornamental string course in the deep plinth or surbase of the hall. In the centre of the ceiling, which is flat, having a very deep cove round it, are five circular lights, which, with the lunettes round the sides between the cove-bands, render the hall as useful for day meetings as by artificial

light. It is capable of seating comfortably 4000 persons, and will admit an audience of 6000 to 7000 standing.

The other rooms consist of an assembly, or small concert room, 76 feet long by 38 feet wide, and 23 feet high; drawing-room adjoining, 41 feet by 24 feet; and card room. Over the assembly-room, in the attic story, is a supper-room of the same dimensions; billiard, smoking, and attendants' rooms. There are four large staircases opening into the piazza in front, and two in the rear of the building, affording the means of dismissing a large assembly freely.

The whole interior has been designed and carried out in the same style and originality of feeling as the exterior, and presents many novelties in detail arising from the selection of a new class of type from which the ornaments are conventionalised, producing pleasing variety of effect without interfering with the proportions of the best authorities of the antique. This idea has been ably carried out by Mr. George Jackson, who has executed the whole of the enrichments of the interior.

For this splendid example of architectural taste Manchester is indebted to the architect, Mr. Edward Walters, who has been a resident for some years, and has constantly brought to bear in all his works extended experience gained by long travel in Europe and the East, and to whose labours it owes much for the position it at present occupies in the estimation of the world of art. The whole of the works and decorations of the building, with the exception of the allegorical sculptures by Mr. Thomas, have been executed by local artists and artisans, under Mr. George Harrap, the contractor. They have fulfilled their several departments with credit to themselves and to the city in which they reside. This new hall has been erected by the Manchester Public Hall Company.

THE FREE-TRADE CONGRESS AT BRUSSELS.

The numerous visitors from all parts of Europe to attend the Congress cannot fail to appreciate most deeply the great attention and hospitality with which they were received. The example shown by his Majesty King Leopold in the splendid banquet given at the Palace to the members of the Congress de Bienfaisance was followed by several of the distinguished citizens and residents of the capital. M. Corr Vander Meiran entertained the members of the Congress at a very elegant soirée; and the Count Arrivabene, a Florentine nobleman, occupying an elegant mansion in the Quartier Louise boulevard, throw open his splendid suite of rooms to the foreign visitors.

On the 25th ult. the members of the International Free-trade Congress partook of a magnificent banquet prepared for them at the Hôtel de Ville, for the purpose of celebrating the conclusion of their labours.



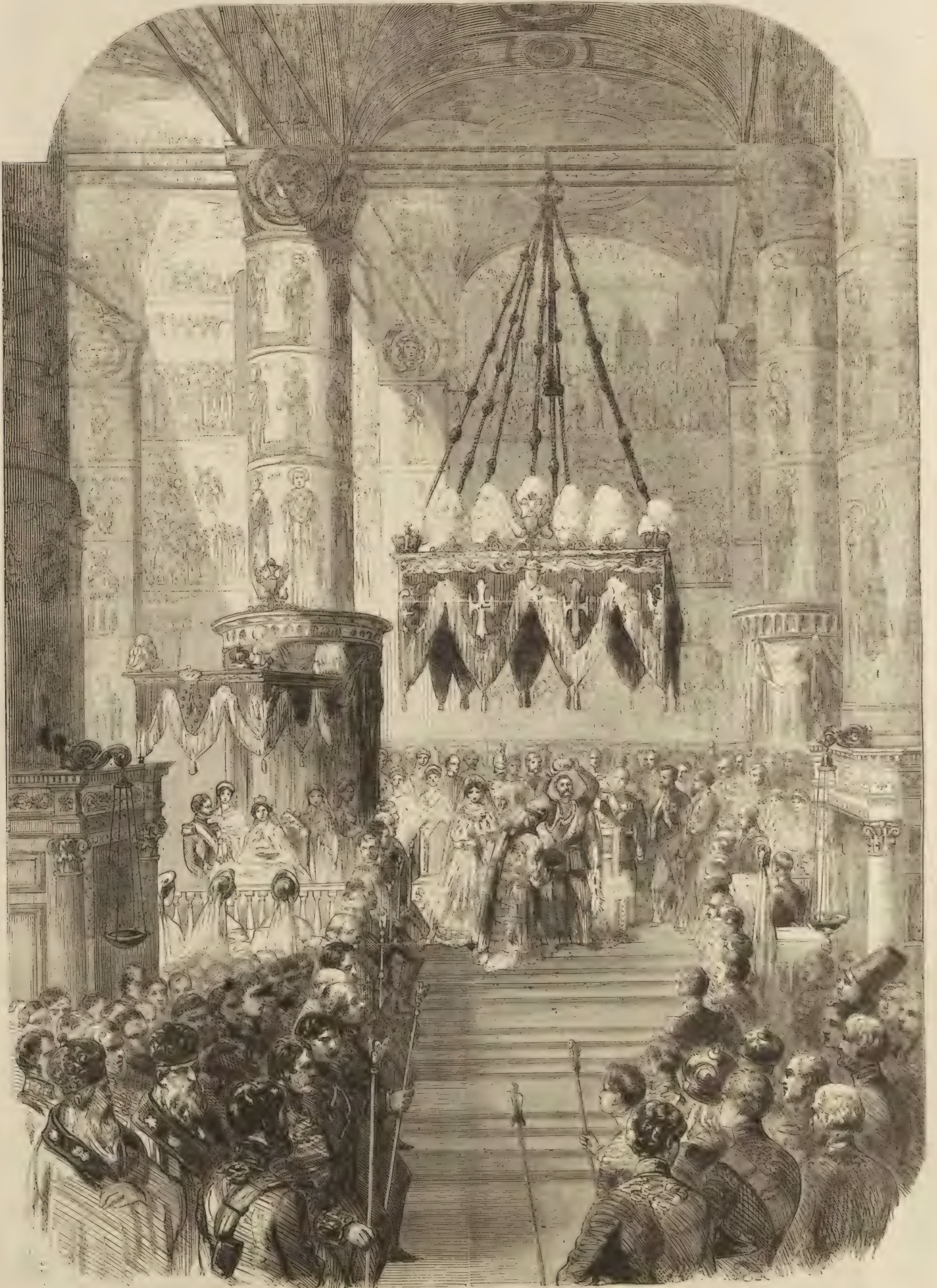
MEDAL PRESENTED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BELGIAN FREE-TRADE COUNCIL.



As a memorial of this important Congress, a very handsome bronze medal has been struck to be presented by the Belgian Committee of Organisation to the several members.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL (THE SCHOOL OF SIR ISAAC NEWTON) AT GRANTHAM, RESTORED.
(SEE PAGE 372.)

THE RUSSIAN CORONATION.



THE CROWNING OF THE EMPEROR IN THE CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION. - (SEE NEXT PAGE)

COUNT DE CHREPTOWITCH.

ONE of the first consequences of the Treaty of Paris, which put an end to the war with Russia, was the renewal of diplomatic relations between that empire and the Allied Powers. The post vacated by Sir Hamilton Seymour was given to Lord Wodehouse, whilst that rendered vacant by the recall of Baron de Brunnow was conferred upon Count de Chreptowitch. M. de Kisseleff was appointed to the Embassy at Paris, M. de Boutenief to Constantinople, Baron de Budberg to Vienna, and Baron de Brunnow to Berlin. This latter diplomatist is still at Paris, acting *ad interim* for M. de Kisseleff. It is the policy of Russia continually to change her Ambassadors, lest they should become imbued with the views of the liberal-minded statesmen they are brought in contact with. Thus Count Chreptowitch comes to London, comparatively isolated, and takes up a new position. Had Baron de Brunnow returned, his acquaintance and personal friendship with our leading diplomatists and Ministers would have, under the peculiar circumstances, been embarrassing. Count Chreptowitch is reputed a shrewd diplomatist, and has often been employed on delicate missions by the late Czar Nicholas. He is especially well acquainted with the policy of Germany. Recent events demonstrate that Count de Chreptowitch has an arduous and delicate task before him. He arrived in London with a numerous ambassadorial staff, including Baron Nicolai as Secretary of Legation. On the 27th of August last Count de Chreptowitch had the honour of presenting his credentials to her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, who postponed her departure to receive his Excellency.

THE RUSSIAN CORONATION FESTIVITIES.

THE GREAT BAZAAR DURING THE CORONATION.

THE Gostinoi d'Vor, or Great Bazaar of Moscow, is constructed opposite the Kremlin. It is a vast collection of shops, or, more properly speaking, stalls, resembling those of Eastern khans. Here are the money-changers, with their piles of crowns. Here are also the Armenians, dressed like the squires of the thirteenth century, with a *pourpoint*, who offer for sale Oriental goods of silk and satin; Tartars' slippers, made of different colours; and Oriental arms with Damascus temper.

Another curious trade is that of saints' images, one of the most flourishing commerces in Moscow. Some of them are true Byzantine antiquities. "I saw," says the correspondent of the *Independence Belge*, "Vernet, the actor of the Théâtre Français, buy a lot of old silver crosses, enamelled for the most part, and surrounded with inscriptions in Slavonic character; and an infinity of chains, worked with exquisite art."

The animation which reigns in this part of the town, says another correspondent, is only comparable to that of the city of London in business hours, or the Jews' quarter of Amsterdam, or the Zeil of Frankfort during the fair. Hundreds of droskies with fine horses, or miserable screws, and telegas loaded with bales, are stationed pell-mell in the public places: the horses drink at the common troughs which are to be found in most of the streets. All around the Exchange, built with brick, and covered with a red colour, are the great restaurants, some of which have a façade of fifty windows.

The objects of foreign manufacture are very dear: the foreigners are mostly attracted to the embroidered Russia-leather slippers, which have all sorts of curious designs. The furriers' shops are numerous, for fine fur is as indispensable to a Russian lady as point d'Alençon lace is to a Parisian belle. The chief wholesale affairs are transacted, not in the shops and counting-houses, but in these restaurants. One correspondent was told that the American dealers at Leipzig sold furs cheaper than in Russia. In the bazaars there is a great deal of playing at draughts. In the print-shops the illustrations of the war are curious. They usually represent a Cossack piercing several English at once with his lance, like herrings on a spit.

The view below is a fine specimen of one of the *Places*, or open sites of Moscow—the Krasnoi Ploschad, or Red Place.



THE COUNT DE CHREPTOWITCH, THE NEW RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.

THE BULL-FIGHT AT BAYONNE.

IN compliance with the wishes of his Spanish consort, it may be supposed, the French Emperor, while at Biarritz, accompanied the Empress to a bull-fight on the 14th of September. This barbarous amusement was got up in the most elaborate style. The leader of the toreros was the celebrated Manuel Egana, a man about thirty years of age, strongly built, broad shouldered, and of medium stature. He wore a rich green silk costume embroidered with silver. A long yellow cloak hung on his left arm; his right hand was placed on his hip, and he walked about for some time as tranquilly and as much at his ease as if he was in a wine-shop. His companions, who were young and smart toreros, were also gaily dressed. Three French

écarteurs from the Landes followed modestly in the rear of the brilliant *cuadrilla*. The Spanish portion of the assemblage, not accustomed to such an intrusion, did not appear to make out why the *écarteurs* were placed in the bull-ring, and in fact they did look rather out of place and awkward by the side of their companions. In some towns of the south of France similar sports are held and conducted after a French fashion; and the reason why they were mingled on this occasion was owing to the desire of some persons to see the bull-fighters of both nations exercise their art in company.

The first bull that appeared in the arena was of what connoisseurs call the *abanto* class. It did not bound into the ring with precipitation and fury, but crept out stealthily, and, when least expected, made a rush at one of the toreros, who by a slight but skilful movement evaded the dangerous horns, but yet remained still, and allowed the disappointed animal to rush blindly on until he perceived that his enemy had disappeared. A cloud of chulos then began to distract his attention. They roused him to fury by shaking their cloaks in his face, and the espada, Egana, profiting by the favourable opportunity, for which he had remained quietly on the watch, advanced under his very horns, and killed the beast at one stroke.

The second bull, though fiercer in aspect and more impetuous in his movement, was in reality less dangerous than the first. His mode of attack was more open, more "frank," sooner understood and better calculated by the fighters. On his first rush from the den he went bounding round the ring in great fury and leaped the barriers, but he soon got tired, and showed no great desire to fight. When the moment for dispatching him came he was killed by Egana at the second blow; and the public were so pleased that the carcass was given to him as a perquisite. The story of the third bull did not much differ from the preceding ones. But Egana was not so fortunate in his contest with the fourth. When taking his position to kill the animal he was thrown to the ground, and trampled on. His dress was torn to pieces in a few moments by the bull's horns, and though his companions ran at once to his assistance, they could not prevent him from being severely hurt. Egana asked, and, of course, obtained, permission to retire from the ring. The fifth bull was killed, though unscientifically, by the second espada, who executed what billiard-players would call a *fluke*. In fact, the animal was lying dead at his feet before he was aware of it; a stroke, unintentionally dealt, between the horns, and which entered the spinal marrow, killed the bull in an instant. To the admirers of such inhuman sports the absence of picadors, or mounted lancemen, was, of course, a great drawback. The poor animals, it was also said, had lost much of their vigour by the delay and the influence of the rain of the previous week, and were therefore seen to a disadvantage.

On the 21st ult., however, a more complete bull-fight took place. On this occasion the crowd was gratified by the performances of the following picadors or lancemen:—Jose Munos, who is well known in the towns of Andalusia; Pedro Romero, a pupil of the well-known Corchado; Antonio Calderon, who, in spite of his sleepy air, actually makes the spectators shudder at his audacious bearing with the bull; and Jose Trigo, who is esteemed by the good people of Madrid as the "classical" picador. Calderon and Munos fought the first bull. He was a finely-formed animal, with a small black head, and short but formidable-looking horns, eyes that moved about incessantly, and most nimble legs. He bounded furiously out of his den the moment the door was opened; and, after a few turns of the ring, looked defiantly and fiercely at his attackers and at the spectators. When, however, he came to a "conference" with the picadors he became more calm, and he seemed willing to accept a treaty of peace. The chulos would not consent to the terms, whatever these were; they shook their gay cloaks in his face, and his fury again returned. He attacked Calderon's horse in the rear, and the picador was evidently unprepared for this mode of assault. He defended himself, however, without losing his saddle, and the horse got rid of the bull without more serious damage than a slightly-gored leg. Trigo, the second picador, apparently annoyed at his comrade's negligence, came up at full gallop, and rushed against the furious bull. In a second Trigo lay sprawling on the ground, with his horse killed beside him. Panaderon and Aragon helped him to



THE RED PLACE, MOSCOW.



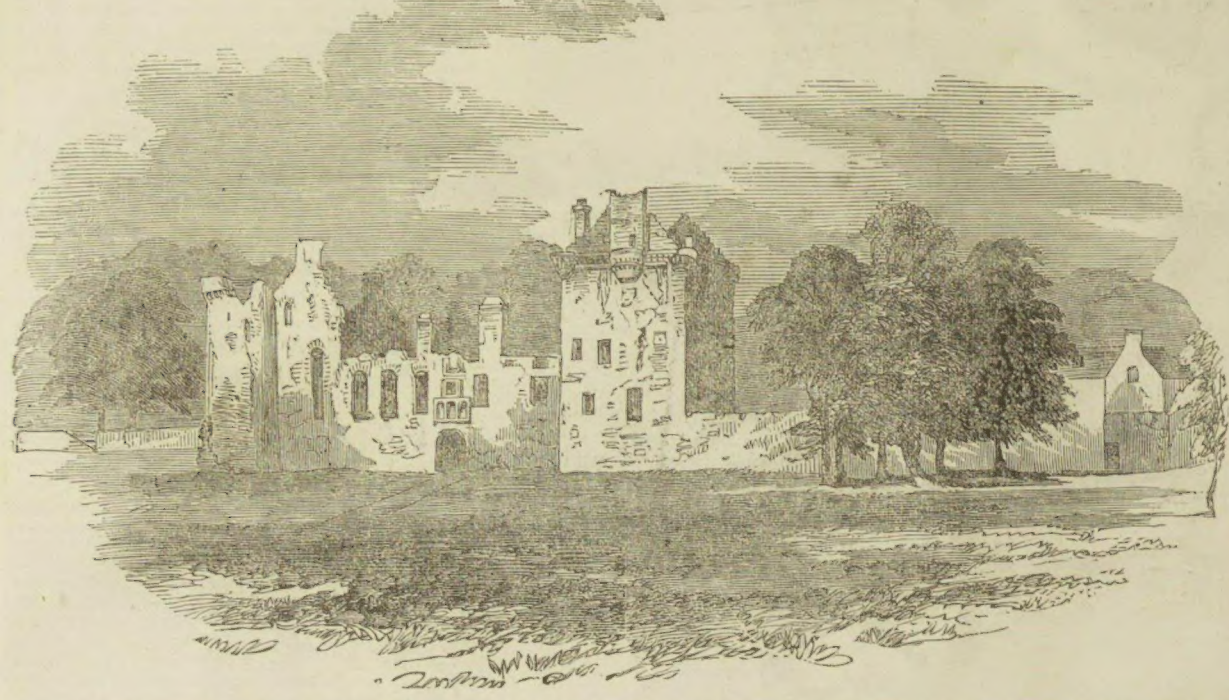
THE BULL-FIGHT AT BAYONNE, BEFORE THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

rise, and he went in anger in search of another quadruped. Usa planted, a *terço*, a pair of banderillas or darts in the neck of the animal, dropping suddenly on him, and then gliding away by the left. He succeeded well in his feat, and was much applauded. Four pairs of darts were stuck in the bull's neck by Usa and Chacon, and after some further play the trumpet gave the signal of death. Desperado, whose duty it was, as first matador, to kill the bull, advanced, as is the etiquette, to the Emperor's box, and asked permission to do the deed. This, of course, was accorded, and he flung his *montera* cap in

the air, which meant that he staked everything on one cast. He dispatched the animal with two blows.

The second bull, after a similar trial to that of the first, was killed by the panadero in one stroke, which Montes himself might have envied. The same operations were repeated throughout, and the result was that six bulls were killed and eight horses.

The Emperor and Empress remained to the last. They were applauded on retiring, and the Spanish national air was played when they took their departure.



EDZELL CASTLE, NEAR BRECHIN, N.B. IN THE FLOWER-GARDEN WAS BUILT THE PAVILION FOR THE DINNER GIVEN TO LORD PANMURE.

DINNER TO LORD PANMURE.

SOON after Lord Panmure came to the possession of his extensive estates in the north of Scotland his tenantry resolved to entertain him at a public dinner, in token of their esteem. Various circumstances prevented them from carrying out their proposal until Thursday week, when it was carried into effect. The place selected was the garden-ground behind the old Castle of Edzell, on the upper part of his estates, where a pavilion was erected, and elegantly decorated for the occasion. The old kitchen of the castle, after being without fire for 200 years, was extemporised for the culinary department, and a splendid dinner was served to upwards of 200 farmers, to the noble Lord, and a few stranger friends. Lord Panmure was received with much applause, and seemed to enjoy excellent health and spirits. The chair was occupied by Mr. David Robertson, farmer, Westside; supported on the right by Lord Panmure, Major Mackay, and Dr. E. Guthrie; and on the left by the Rev. Mr. Adie, Provost Guthrie, and Mr. John Blackie, of Craigiebuckler.

After the routine toasts had been disposed of, the Chairman rose to propose the toast of the evening amid loud cheers, "The Health of their noble proprietor, the Right Hon. Lord Panmure, Lord Lieutenant of the County and Secretary of State for War." He hoped the time was not far distant when his Lordship would be more among them as a practical farmer himself (Cheers). They were all aware of the great desire Lord Panmure had to promote the comfort of his tenants by the comfortable cottages, houses, and park buildings he had erected on his property (Cheers). They were also indebted to Lord Panmure for the admirable manner in which he had conducted the war (Cheers). They all knew the sufferings the soldiers had undergone before he was appointed Secretary of State for War, and how, in a short time, this state of things was altered, and the soldiers clothed and fed, and how the military resources of the country were so developed as to enable the army to bear upon the enemy with such overwhelming force as to make them sue for peace (Cheers). The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm—three times three, and one cheer more.

Lord Panmure, on rising to reply, was greeted with loud and long-continued cheers. After alluding to his long absence from the home of his forefathers, and taking a glance at his own political career, the noble Lord, in referring to the remarks made by the chairman, disclaimed any special credit for what had been done to restore the health and efficiency of the army:—

I have often said, and I repeat it now, when I succeeded to the administration of the affairs of war, the barometer was steadily on the rise, and many of the plans which had been laid and the steps which had been taken by my friend and predecessor I had only to work out as he had left them, and little to add in order to bring them to a fortunate maturity (loud cheers). I believe if the Duke of Newcastle had remained in office—if that clamour—for I must call it clamour, which drove him from the ruins of the office in which I succeeded him—had not occurred, he would have succeeded as well as I have done in bringing the army round from the state into which it had unfortunately fallen to the state of discipline and of improvement in every way in which it left the shores of the Crimea (Cheers). But there were some steps which were taken by me which I think did a great deal, not to bring the army, especially from its low estate, but to prevent the consequences of that low estate upon the return of the ensuing summer; and I think that no greater benefit has accrued to the army than resulted from the labours of the sanitary commissioners, consisting of Dr. Sutherland and others, who were sent out by me to the shores of the Crimea, who by their skill and foreknowledge, removed all offensive matter from the camp, and prevented that which every one was prophesying with horror—namely, the rage of contagion and disease when the hot weather set in. From the exertions of these gentlemen, and from the manner in which the commanding officers of the army, from the highest to the lowest, seconded their efforts, no contagion broke out in the ranks of our gallant forces; and from the time that spring burst upon that island nothing but health pervaded the army, and they left the Crimea and returned to England in a state of health unknown even at home (Cheers). I will not detain you long with reference to myself or the affairs immediately committed to my charge. I would only say, with regard to the army, that it has been my study to improve the condition of the soldier from the first moment that I had his interests committed to my charge (Cheers). I have endeavoured to elevate him from the position in which some twenty or thirty years ago he was found. He was then to be found either in the parade ground or in the canteen, with no pursuits to elevate his mind or expand his intellect. I have endeavoured to raise him from such a debased situation, and to give him a thirst for knowledge, and an opportunity of cultivating those talents which he holds in common with the rest of the community; and I thank God that these endeavours have not been unavailing, and that the army at this time may present its ranks to the farmer and the shopkeeper, and the manufacturer, as being a fit profession for their children, without their leaving that army in the course of a few years debased and degraded as they would have done in former times.

GREECE AND THE WESTERN POWERS.—Letters from Athens of the 24th ult. state that the Governments of France and England, having been appealed to respecting the dispute which lately took place between the Queen and Admiral Bouet-Villaumez on the subject of the commandant of the *Piræus*, approve completely the conduct of the Admiral on that occasion. It is said that the Ministers of France and England at Athens have received instructions to inform the Greek Government that the loan of 60,000,000 had for its guarantee that national property which the Queen was about to divide among her supporters, and which could not be alienated without the assent of the three Powers.

THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN IN THE WORLD.—Colonel Waugh, Surveyor-General of India, has discovered a mountain in the Himalayan Range, which turns out to be the highest mountain in the world. The far-famed Dewalagiri had already for some years yielded its claim for pre-eminence to Kanchitunga; and the latter must now yield to the newly-discovered mountain, which Colonel Waugh proposes to call Mount Everest, in honour of the late Surveyor-General of India.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

TUESDAY being the day to which Parliament stood prorogued, and it being understood it would be further prorogued by command of her Majesty, a Commission, by an order in Privy Council, having been directed to issue under the Great Seal for that purpose, a number of ladies and gentlemen were admitted to witness the ceremony. Two o'clock was the hour appointed; but, owing to a telegraphic message from the Earl of Harrowby, one of the Commissioners, that he could not arrive in town before three (the train having failed), it was postponed. The Right Hon. the Lord Chancellor, the Right Hon. the Earl of Clarendon, and the Earl of Harrowby, preceded by the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms with his mace, entered the House in their full robes as Peers, and took their seats in front of the throne as Lords Commissioners. The Lord Chancellor then commanded the Usher of the Black Rod to summon her Majesty's Commons to the bar of their Lordships' House, to hear her Majesty's Commission read. Mr. Pulteney, the Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, proceeded to the House of Commons, and summoned the members with the usual formalities; and, on his return, announced to the House that her Majesty's Commons were at the bar—her Majesty's faithful Commons being represented by Sir Denis Le Marchant, the Chief Clerk, and one or two officials. Mr. Shaw Lefevre then advanced to the table and read the commission, commanding the Commissioners present, in the name of her Majesty, to further prorogue Parliament until Thursday, the 13th day of November next.

The Lord Chancellor then rose and said that, by virtue of the commission just read, he, in the name of her Majesty, declared Parliament prorogued until Thursday, the 13th day of November next accordingly. The Lord Chancellor then declared the House adjourned, and the ceremony terminated.

BURNING OF A SHIP.—DESTRUCTION OF HUMAN LIVES.—The following details of a horrible case of piracy and burning of a ship, at Macao, was received at Lloyd's on Saturday last:—"The Dutch ship *Banca*, 700 tons burden, with between 300 and 400 emigrants (Coolies) for Havannah, put back to Macao, about a month since (the despatch is dated Hong-Kong, August 10), with her water-casks leaking and cargo shifted, having encountered boisterous weather; and, on reaching the outer roads, brought up to an anchor. There she remained repairing, the officers of the ship exercising strict vigilance in preventing the Coolies going ashore, for fear they should make their escape. For three weeks, whatever discontent may have prevailed, no fears of an outbreak would seem to have been entertained until a Chinese doctor warned the Captain that mischief was brewing. In preparing for such a contingency as a rising of the Coolies, the small-arms were placed on the poop, and two guns were loaded with grape and pointed forward. About nine o'clock on the night of the 8th the disturbance commenced, and the crew took refuge on the poop. The Captain first fired a shot or two overhead; but as that had no effect, and the Coolies were advancing towards them, yelling frightfully, armed with belaying pins, bricks torn from the cooking places, &c., the Captain gave orders to his men to fire, and immediately a volley was poured into the infuriated mass from the two guns, and also from the small-arms. This had the effect of checking and putting down the riot, and the Coolies were driven below; but they sought revenge by setting fire to the ship, and in a few minutes the Captain was appalled by seeing flames issuing from the fore hatch. A frightful scene of carnage followed, the Coolies rushed upon deck, and no doubt murdered all the officers of the ship, none of them or the Captain having been seen since. The ship was soon in a blaze fore and aft. In about an hour the mainmast fell with a crash, then the fore and main, and about midnight the magazines blew up with a tremendous explosion. The ship was instantly hurled to fragments, and a vast number of poor creatures, clinging on the chains perished with her. Of the number who were on board, including crew and passengers—about 500—only 150 escaped with their lives, the remainder were either burnt in the ship or drowned.

FEATS OF MEMORY.—The New York *Journal of Commerce* publishes the following:—"JIM WATSON'S BOOK."—On the plantation of James Watson, near Port Gibson, Mississippi, may be witnessed an exhibition of memory that is truly remarkable. An African girl, about fourteen years of age, answers to the same name which heads this article. It is the custom of Watson to give rewards for over-work, and during the cotton picking season the amount each hand picks is weighed twice per day—noon and night. The girl stands by the overseer, and listens to the number of pounds announced to each hand, and at night the result is reported with the utmost accuracy. Her correctness is repeatedly put to the test by Watson and others who keep memoranda during the weighing, and a day or two afterwards she is catechised, and her memory found perfect.

THE FIRST BISHOP OF WESTMINSTER.—In burying Archbishop Cornwalls in the Church of St. Mary, Lambeth, in 1783, were found the remains of Thirlby, the first and only Bishop of Westminster; he died a prisoner in Lambeth Palace (temp. Elizabeth). The body was discovered wrapped in fine linen, the face perfect, the beard long and white; the linen and woollen garments well preserved; the cap, silk and point lace, as in portraits of Archbishop Juxon; slouched hat, under left arm; cassock, like apron with strings; and pieces of garments like a pilgrim's habit.—From the *Curiosities of London*.

MONUMENT TO THE LATE JOHN WILSON, THE SCOTTISH VOCALIST.—A memorial of this amiable man and excellent artist has just been erected in the Dean or Western Cemetery at Edinburgh. It is a handsome obelisk of Craigleith stone, and has been executed by Mr. Thomas Gibb, builder, Meadow-place. When finished, it will present on its western tablet a medallion of the late John Wilson in bronze, by Mr. John Steel, R.S.A.; and on the north and south tablets a brief record of Mr. Wilson's birth, death, and burial-place in Montreal. The whole will be finished by the end of the present month.

The exhibition medals won by Montreal exhibitors at the Paris Exhibition, were distributed last week. Canada altogether won 44—of which two were gold medals of honour, 12 silver first-class medals, and 30 bronze second-class. Of these, Montreal carried off 25.

SCANDINAVIA.*

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

SINCE the commencement of the late war against Russia down to the present day, public attention has mainly concentrated itself on the Danube, the Crimea, the Caucasus, the Euxine, the Bosphorus, and the Dardanelles. On these districts much historical and geographical knowledge has recently been accumulated, of great value in the discussion and settlement of questions relating to international policy; but, for reasons presently to be assigned, it is highly desirable that accurate information should be circulated concerning the political position of Scandinavia. Under that compendious term are included Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Finnmark. If we except Finland, it is only because it is incorporated with Russia. Schleswig is a Scandinavian duchy dependent on Denmark, as are also Holstein and Lauenburg; but the two latter are portions of the Germanic Confederation. These distinctions are highly important, though they have been confounded by many publicists. To speak of Schleswig-Holstein as one and the same is to violate correct notions of ethnography, and to represent two inimical races as united in one common nationality; yet this error has been frequently committed. The interests and policy of Frederick VII. as King of Denmark and Duke of Schleswig, are purely Scandinavian: as Duke of Holstein and Lauenburg he is a member of the Germanic Confederation, and in that character is represented in the Diet of Frankfurt. In consequence of these double relations, his position is peculiar and embarrassing. Should the Confederation declare war, he is bound to furnish his contingent as Duke of Holstein, though as King of Denmark he may have pledged himself to neutrality, or even made a treaty offensive and defensive with the nation attacked by Germany; thus the King and the Duke, that is Denmark and Holstein, may come into collision. Such is the anomalous position assigned to the Danish monarchy by the Treaty of Vienna, 1815.

In earlier times some of the German Dukes had disputed the rights of the Kings of Denmark to the Duchy of Schleswig, but that controversy was settled in 1720 under the guarantee of France and England, when Schleswig was definitively incorporated with Denmark. According to M. Lallerstedt, Denmark Proper extended southwards to the Eider, and the German portion of the kingdom was included between the Eider and the Elbe. The Eider, from time immemorial, has been recognised as the true limit of the Scandinavian territory, and beyond it even Charlemagne never extended his conquests, nor indeed have any German invasions passed its banks. Tradition records that Charlemagne hurled his javelin into the river, exclaiming "This is the limit of the Empire."

Christian VIII., King of Denmark, who died on the 20th of January 1848, by an imprudent act, afforded a colourable pretext to the enemies of Scandinavian unity for carrying out their schemes of dismemberment. He appointed his brother-in-law, the Prince of Noer, brother to the Duke of Augustenburg, Governor of Schleswig and Holstein, thus giving to them the semblance of identity. Those Princes were of a German family, and entertained the ambitious hope of founding for themselves an independent State formed of the two Duchies; hence arose dangerous intrigues, continued to the present hour, and fomented by Prussia, long desirous of becoming a naval Power. That desire, however, can never be realised, so long as she is confined to the Baltic; hence she covets the possession of Kiel, an excellent port in Holstein, as well as Flensburg and Apenrade, admirable maritime positions in Schleswig. To compass these views the Court of Berlin sympathises with the Holsteiners and the disaffected in Schleswig in their agitation against Denmark, to embitter an antagonism between the Scandinavian and Germanic nationalities—the object of Prussia being to use the Princes of Augustenburg as tools, with the ultimate design of seizing the Duchies for herself. These facts explain the cause of the late war between Denmark and the Duchies, when the troops of the King of Prussia and of the Confederation invaded Schleswig and Jutland, under pretence of defending Holstein.

On the 25th August, 1848, the armistice of Malmo was concluded between the King of Denmark and the King of Prussia, in his own name, and in the name of the Germanic Confederation, but hostilities were soon resumed. While war was raging Frederick VII. redeemed the pledge he had given on ascending the throne, and granted to Denmark a constitution founded on universal suffrage. This compact between the Crown and the people was signed on the 5th January, 1849; but as Schleswig was still in revolt, it was not included, but a clause to this effect was inserted in the constitutional document:—"All that concerns the government of the Duchy of Schleswig to be regulated after peace is established." On the 5th July, 1850, the final treaty between Denmark and Prussia was signed. Russia next interfered in Scandinavian politics by the protocol of Warsaw, dated 5th June, 1851, and, although professing friendship for Denmark, supported the views of Austria and Prussia, as members of the Germanic Confederation. The result of these negotiations or intrigues is thus described by Mr. Lallerstedt.

The arrangement consisted in the granting of separate constitutions for the Duchies on the plans chosen by the Cabinets of Vienna and Berlin, and of one constitution common to all the monarchy, while Jutland and the Isles preserved the constitution of 1849. This complicated representation imagined by diplomacy, was full of snares. First, the incorporation of Schleswig into Denmark, for which Frederick VII. had with right taken arms, was condemned. The patriot party of the Eiderists, who had so boldly defended the rights of Scandinavian nationality, was defeated. . . . In the second place, the project of a common constitution introduced into the heart of the Scandinavian provinces the German elements which the Eiderists so justly misdoubted. They knew too well the encroaching spirit of Germanism, which, like a drop of oil, spreads where it touches. They saw in this pretended community an attack on Scandinavianism—a perpetual war, under the appearance of fraternity. The work of German diplomacy was doubly perilous. While the Danes claimed union with Schleswig, they were separated from it by a constitution apart; while they refused any connection with Holstein beyond a personal union, they were joined to it by a common constitution. Finally, the Danish party in Schleswig would be mutilated and weakened by the obstinate propagation of the German compact with Holstein; Schleswig weakened by its separation from Jutland; and Holstein strengthened by all the influence of German royalty. The insurrection had been conquered by arms, yet it was made triumphant by diplomacy. The Cabinets of Germany were peridious, that of London was duped, and Paris was blind.

The succession to the throne of Denmark is one of the gravest questions of the future, and its consequences ought to be well considered. To render this subject clear we must ascend the stream of history to the year 1397, when the union of Kalmar was proclaimed, by which Scandinavian unity was established; Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, being then united under the sceptre of Queen Margaret—called by some historians the Semiramis of the North, long before the venal pen of Voltaire conferred that title on Catherine II. of Russia. At that period the Swedish nobles expelled their first King of German race, Albert of Mecklenburg. Eric the Pomeranian, successor to Margaret, was crowned with the title of King of the North, but he was of German race; and thus an early blow was given to the purely Scandinavian element, which ever since

* "Scandinavia: its Hopes and Fears." By G. Lallerstedt.

has produced fatal results. In course of time the family of Oldenburg succeeded to the throne of Denmark and Norway, Sweden having been previously detached from them, when it regained its national independence by the courage of Gustavus Vasa, though at the expense of Scandinavian unity. It was the Oldenburg family who brought to Denmark its rights over Schleswig and Holstein, of which they were the chief possessors; and, in reference to the latter Duchy, implicated Denmark in the Germanic Confederation. Now the Czars of Russia descend from the Gottorp line of the ducal house of Holstein, and belong to the younger branches of the house of Oldenburg; and thus put forward a claim to intervene in the future succession to the throne of Denmark; but that claim is really extinct. However, the subtlety of the Muscovite, now pretty well understood, and the tenacity with which the Czars cling even to shadowy pretensions, warn us to be on our guard against all eventualities. The extinction of Russian claims is thus shown by M. Lallerstedt:—

After the negotiations commenced by Catherine II. with Christian VII., and terminated by the Grand Duke Paul at his majority, the latter ceded Holstein-Gottorp, with his share and rights in the Duchy, to the King of Denmark, and further renounced, by the same act, all pretensions on Schleswig. As the price of this concession and renunciation Christian VII. ceded to the Grand Duke the counties of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst, the present Grand Duke of Oldenburg. The agreement was signed at the Castle of Kiel, the 16th November, 1773. Nothing was wanting to make this contract valid; there was a reciprocal concession, and an exchange established by long afterpossession. Each was so entirely master, from that time, of the territories mutually exchanged, that the Grand Duke Paul immediately ceded the Duchy of Oldenburg, which he had just received, to his relative, Bishop Frederick Augustus, of Lubec; thereby proving similar rights for the other contracting party in the territory of Holstein. It is well to insist on the nature and terms of this contract, because in the new regulation of the Danish succession certain reservations made by the Czar are founded upon eventual rights which he would have as Duke of Holstein—rights which no longer belong to him. One of the constant habits of Russian diplomacy is to slip a clause into treaties, which, though apparently unimportant, is intended to serve as the basis of great pretensions. This was the case in the Treaty of London of the 8th May, 1852, for the regulation of the Danish succession, signed by the five great Powers and the King of Sweden.

Scandinavian unity is essential to the maintenance of the balance of power, and the more so since Russia has annexed Finland to her empire; nor are we to overlook or underrate the designs of Prussia on the naval harbours of Kiel and Flensburg. Denmark, Sweden, and Norway united under one sceptre would form a strong outwork for the defence of Western Europe; and the dominion of the Czars over the Sound and Belts would prove scarcely less formidable than their occupation of the Dardanelles. England and France, prompted by the instinct of self-preservation, forgot their ancient quarrels and hatreds, and wisely united together to prevent Russia seizing the eastern key of the Mediterranean, and her armed vessels can no longer float on the Euxine, if the faith of treaties be respected. But treaties may be evaded, and the new steam navigation companies organised and organising, all whose ships are to be so constructed as to carry guns (certainly not for defence against pirates) convey a hint that prudence will not disregard. Russia, curbed in the East, will intrigue more stealthily in the north, and the Danish succession gives her the opportunity. It has been well observed that the Straits of the Sound, leading from the German Ocean to the Baltic, give Denmark a position parallel to that of the Ottoman empire on the Sea of Marmora. If the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles have hindered the Russians from penetrating from the Black Sea into the Mediterranean, the Sound and the Belts offer no less an obstacle in the North. The Sound is a key no less valuable to Europe, shutting the Russian fleets out of the German Ocean.

In this article we have not spoken of Sweden, intending to offer some remarks on that country on a subsequent and early occasion. We shall then speak of Finland, how basely it was betrayed, and how cruelly its inhabitants have been treated by the Czars, who have violated all the contracts and engagements to which they solemnly had pledged their honour. We shall avail ourselves of the same opportunity to disclose the intrigues of Russia to gain a maritime footing in Finmark, by constructing a deep-water harbour at Alten-Fiord, where impregnable forts might easily be constructed; and offer some reflections on the policy of uniting the whole of Scandinavia under one monarchy.

THE MONETARY CRISIS IN PARIS.—The Bank of France has adopted strong measures to check the exportation of bullion. It declines to discount bills that have more than sixty days to run; and, at the same time, it restricts the conditions under which it will make advances on security. It will no longer lend more than forty per cent on Rentes, or than twenty per cent upon shares or railway obligations; and in no case for a more extended period than a month.

THE SECRET ENTENTE CORDIALE.—Russia most skillfully availed herself of the position of the Paris Bourse, at the end of February and commencement of March last, to play upon the French Government, and thereby to hurry on the conclusion of a peace, the omissions and defects of which are now staring us in the face. One of the principal agents in that *dénouement* is now at Moscow or St. Petersburg, as the representative of his Sovereign's person, or policy, and of the interests to which he owes an immense accumulation of fortune—a fortune which, by successful speculation, has risen, within a brief period, from a few thousands to several millions. It is no disparagement of M. de Morny's patriotism to suppose that Bourse—or call it by a higher name, financial—connections influence his tendencies, and lead him to advise suspension or abandonment of pressure on Naples, and acceptance of the Czar's private mediation. So that it may turn out that Russia has known a second time how to avail herself of, and turn to her own advantages, the perplexities into which over-speculation has now immersed the Paris market.—*Paris Correspondent of the Manchester Guardian.*

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